



# **Daily Report**

## **East Asia**

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6 December 1993

**NOTICE TO READERS:** An \* indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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## Japan

### Talks Resume With U.S. on Telecommunications

OW0612012093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0105 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Japan and the United States resumed a series of sector-by-sector discussions under the bilateral trade framework negotiations in Tokyo on Monday [6 December], government officials said.

According to the Japanese Foreign Ministry, the third round of working-level trade talks on telecommunications will continue through Tuesday, with the question of whether to set "specific targets" for Japan's import of communications equipment the likely focus of debate.

A meeting on cooperation in the development of an earth observation system, designed to promote environmental protection, is also to take place later in the same day at the Science and Technology Agency.

A vice-ministerial meeting on general issues is scheduled to be held Wednesday in Tokyo. The main theme of the conference is expected to be the formulation of an agreement on cooperation in the field of industrial technology.

Meanwhile, the first vice-ministerial talks on cars and auto parts are likely to be held during the fourth week of this month, according to diplomatic sources. The United States is expected to ask Japan to outline its plans for the import of U.S. auto parts after fiscal 1995, though Tokyo appears set to reject such a request.

### U.S. Responds to Demand on Orange Imports

OW0412094693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0929 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—The government is considering reducing import tariffs on oranges by 30 percent over six years from fiscal 1995 which starts in April 1995, Farm Ministry officials said Saturday [4 December].

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries also plans to trim such duties on beef by at least 20 percent over the same period, they said.

The reduction plans will be incorporated in a tariff-cutting table to be submitted to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by the middle of this month, the officials said.

Currently, citrus imports are subject to seasonal duties—20 percent in the June to October period and 40 percent in other months of each year.

During the Uruguay Round of global trade talks conducted so far, the United States has demanded that Japan slash its duties on orange imports by 40 percent.

A senior official at the Farm Ministry's Agricultural Production Bureau said Japan would have little choice but to cut the tariff by nearly 36 percent—an average tariff cut rate as proposed in a final draft of the Uruguay Round agreement.

Washington has also demanded that Japan cut import duties on beef from the present 50 percent to less than 25 percent. The Japanese Government has already slashed such tariffs by about 30 percent from the initial 70 percent for fiscal 1991 when it started liberalizing beef imports.

The government therefore intends to limit the reduction rate to about 20 percent, Farm Ministry officials said.

### Hata: 1993 Rice Harvest To Fall Below Normal

OW0312091493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0838 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Agriculture Minister Eijiro Hata said Friday [3 December] the ultimate rice harvest this year will be worse than expected, with the index falling below an extremely poor 75 against 100 for normal.

Hata made the statement in the House of Representatives Budget Committee session which is debating a supplementary budget to shore up the recession.

The forecast by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries was down from its earlier prediction of 95 in August.

Hata said the ministry will study a new calculation method to prevent wild fluctuations of rice harvest forecasts.

### U.S. Official Confirms Deal on Rice Issue

OW0412032793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy has confirmed a reported Japan-U.S. deal in which Washington will give Tokyo a six-year moratorium for the conversion of its ban on rice imports into tariffs, Fuji Television Network reported Saturday [4 December].

The confirmation came when a Fuji reporter asked Espy whether such an agreement exists between the two countries during his flight to Geneva from Brussels Friday, Fuji said in a report from Geneva. It is the first time that a ranking U.S. official has confirmed the Japan-U.S. deal on rice, the report said.

Responding to the question, Espy was quoted as replying "yes."

Espy is scheduled to visit Geneva from Saturday for talks with South Korea's Agriculture Minister Ho Sin-haeng and Peter Sutherland, director general of the General

**Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT),** in an eleventh-hour effort to bring the Uruguay Round of global trade talks to a conclusion by the December 15 deadline.

Reports say that during the moratorium Japan would import rice at a minimum rate of 4 to 8 percent of its annual domestic consumption, which totals about 10 million tons.

The TV report also said Espy expressed his confidence that the Uruguay Round talks will be concluded successfully by the deadline.

### Hata on Preparing for Rice Liberalization

*OW0512034193 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] In a speech in Sapporo today, Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata spoke about GATT's Uruguay Round of talks, saying that in case the government decides to liberalize the rice market, it should announce what domestic measures will be adopted to cope with it.

[Begin Hata recording] The Diet has passed resolutions on it many times, and so far I have undertaken negotiations based on what were stated in these resolutions.

But one way or another we have to meet this time of change. If progress is made in the GATT talks, we must be prepared and take the necessary actions without delay; we must begin thinking about what to do with Japanese agriculture as well as the interests of farmers, consumers, and the community. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Hata insisted that should Japan decide to liberalize the rice market, the government should present its domestic agricultural policy, including what it will do for farmers.

In a press conference following the speech, Foreign Minister Hata discussed the political reform bills. He noted Prime Minister Hosokawa is making efforts to have them passed by the end of this year, but the Diet schedule is difficult. He said even if Hosokawa fails to have the bills passed by the end of the year, he should not assume political responsibility for it. Hata insisted the question of political responsibility should be asked in reference to whether or not he tried his best.

### SDPJ Threatens To Leave Coalition Over Rice

*OW0612084993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0838 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—A top official of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest force in the ruling coalition, said Monday [6 December] that the party might leave the coalition over the government's handling of the issue of opening Japan's rice market.

SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo told reporters that the party might quit the coalition if it cannot agree to the government's compromise on the issue, which is one of the stumbling blocks to a successful conclusion to the

Uruguay Round of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks due to wind up on December 15.

Maintaining a rice policy of self-sufficiency is included in policy items the seven parties agreed to in launching the coalition government in August and thus even a partial lifting of a total ban on rice imports contravenes the accord, Kubo said.

Kubo also said the SDP will oppose the proposed minimum access formula, which calls on Japan to import rice at a minimum rate of 4 to 8 percent of the 10 million tons consumed domestically every year during a six-year grace period before discussing full tariffication.

He said, "The minimum access idea constitutes part of the opening of the rice market."

"We cannot agree to the proposal in view of past Diet resolutions, which were designed to oppose allowing foreign rice growers access to the Japanese rice market, and the coalition government's policy agreement on the issue," Kubo said.

### Survey on Effects of GATT Accord Reported

*OW0412100893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Comprehensive tariffication for farm and dairy products under the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations will deal a life or death blow to Japanese farmers, a survey by KYODO NEWS SERVICE showed Saturday [4 December].

It appears certain that Japan will be pressed to accept a tariff plan being prepared by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to pave the way for a successful completion of the seven-year-long trade negotiations, government sources said. Negotiating parties have set December 15 as the deadline for conclusion of the negotiations.

Under the GATT scheme, GATT member countries will be required to import a "minimum access" amount of 4 to 8 percent of their domestic consumption during a six-year moratorium to convert import restrictions into tariffs, the sources said.

The plan would require Japan to accept tariffication for most farm and dairy products, except rice, such as lactic products, starch, wheat and legumes, beginning in fiscal 1995, they said.

The KYODO survey showed that Japan's imports of butter and skimmed milk are expected to soar, dealing a heavy blow to domestic dairy farmers, who are already suffering from declining prices and swelling inventories.

Japan will also face pressure to lower tariffs on natural cheese and ice cream.

"We will take a destructive blow from the tariff scheme because domestic prices of lactic products are almost 8 to 10 times higher than international levels," said Hideo

Kotani, leader of a dairy farmers union in the Tokachi area of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island.

The Federation of Dairy Farmers Cooperatives in Kumamoto Prefecture on southern Kyushu Island said the scheme will pose a serious threat even to large-scale dairy farmers. The federation said about 5 percent of small-scale farmers in the prefecture have abandoned dairy farming annually in recent years because of declining milk prices.

Japan annually imports about 120,000 tons of legumes, mostly from China, for processing. In case of "azuki" red beans, its imports account for about one third of its annual consumption.

Domestic growers said prices of domestic products are two to three times higher than imports.

Domestic producers of starch are shifting to production of corn starch using imported corn due to high prices of that produced domestically.

Domestic production of wheat, barley and oats, which are under government control, has decreased because of a decline in the price that the government pays farmers.

Many farmers in Hokkaido are shifting to growing vegetables because of declining prices, one farmer said.

Tariffs on beef and oranges, which were liberalized in 1991, are expected to decline further.

Citrus growers in Kyushu said they suffered a severe blow after the liberalization of orange juice imports in 1992. The price of orange juice is cheaper than juice made from "mikan" or Japanese tangerines.

#### Ministry Eyes High Duties on Foreign Produce

OW0612123093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is considering imposing the highest possible tariffs on imports of about 20 farm items after Japan lifts restrictions on those products, ministry sources said Monday [6 December].

The decision is aimed at keeping out foreign produce as much as possible after Japan replaces import curbs on dairy products, starch and other protected produce with tariffs starting in fiscal 1995 in line with an expected accord in the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

The ministry's formula for calculating duties on such products is to use the price gap between the cheapest foreign products and the costliest domestic ones.

For instance, if the most costly Japanese product is three times more expensive than the cheapest foreign equivalent, the levy will be 200 percent.

The tariff rates will be reduced by 15 percent every year over the six years from fiscal 1995 under the ministry plan, which will not affect rice.

A draft final agreement on the global trade talks presented two years ago requires that tariffs be determined on the basis of the differential in average prices of imported and domestic products.

But the United States and other major industrial nations are likely to ignore the requirement and slap higher duties, so Japan is considering doing likewise, the sources said.

#### Concern Over Yeltsin Pressuring Opponents Noted

OW0512075293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0721 GMT  
5 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—The head of Japan's delegation to monitor elections in Russia next week said Sunday [5 December] he hopes to meet with representatives of the different political parties to ask for guarantees for a free and fair poll.

Parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Syozo Azuma told KYODO NEWS SERVICE he was concerned that Russian President Boris Yeltsin may attempt to apply pressure on political parties and groups opposed to his proposed new constitution.

The December 12 poll will double as an election for a new Russian parliament and as referendum on a new constitution.

Asked about the significance of Japan's first dispatch of election monitors overseas outside of United Nations-related activities, Azuma said that it should signal that Japan has placed an "extremely important meaning" on the poll.

Azuma, who has been designated an ambassador on special mission for the dispatch, said that the inclusion of the five Japanese legislators in the monitoring team is to add importance to the delegation since they are representatives of the Japanese people.

When asked about Yeltsin's military actions in October to put down a protest by conservatives in the Russian parliament, Azuma said he not only supports Yeltsin but also supports the democratization line supported by the president.

"An extension of (the democratization line) is parliamentary elections," said azuma. "Whatever the results may turn out to be, we must hail it in general."

A 15-member delegation to Moscow and a six-member group for Khabarovsk, including bureaucrats, local government officials, and representatives from the private sector, depart Tuesday.

**Firms Await Decision on British Nuclear Plant**

*OW0412035693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0118 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] London, Dec. 4 KYODO—Japanese and British nuclear power companies are waiting anxiously for the British Government's imminent decision on whether or not to grant approval to begin operations at Britain's controversial new nuclear fuel reprocessing plant THORP.

The thermal oxide reprocessing plant (THORP) in northwest England was built by the state-owned British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. (BNFL) and has taken 2.8 billion pounds (4.15 billion dollars) and nearly 15 years to complete. But it is now steeped in controversy, with opponents questioning the very need for the plant.

It was first conceived of in 1977 and is designed to separate spent nuclear fuel from foreign and British nuclear power plants into uranium, plutonium and waste. It is now waiting for a license from the British Government before starting operations.

The plant was due to open in January 1993. It already has contracts with many of Japan's electric power companies and during its first 10 years of operation one third of all nuclear fuel to [be] reprocessed at the plant will be for the Japanese.

Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group, has been campaigning aggressively against THORP and has already taken the government to court in a failed attempt to block testing at the plant.

U.S. President Bill Clinton and Congress have also criticized the project, arguing that the plant will increase the international stockpile of plutonium, which could lead to nuclear proliferation. Commercial reprocessing at the plant will not produce weapons-grade plutonium, which Clinton urged to be internationally banned in a speech to the U.N. in New York earlier this year.

There is concern, however, that some of the plutonium produced could be diverted for military use.

Paddy Ashdown, leader of Britain's Liberal Democratic Party, and other critics argue that the economic reasons for building THORP in the first place have collapsed. In 1977, when the decision to build THORP was taken, Middle Eastern oil prices were rising and governments were rushing to develop nuclear power, inflating uranium prices.

THORP was designed to be an economical way to recycle old fuel from reactors worldwide and to be an environmentally friendly way to solve the problem of nuclear waste disposal.

Uranium prices have, however, fallen and attitudes toward nuclear power generation have changed since the Chernobyl accident in 1986, which has led to the charge by opponents that THORP is now an expensive white elephant.

The plant's customers, however, are mainly Japanese and German utility companies which have invested approximately 1.6 billion pounds (2.37 billion dollars) in the project.

Last month 10 Japanese electrical power companies placed a series of full-page advertisements with the heading, "We don't just support THORP. We need it," in all the leading British newspapers.

British Prime Minister John Major, answering a question in the House of Commons recently said, "THORP is a substantial engineering and export success for this country.

"it will support some 3,000 jobs. It has 9 billion pounds (13.3 billion dollars) of contracts and that's a very powerful vote of confidence from the people around the world who will be its customers," Major said.

Alison Broadbent, a spokeswoman for BNFL, said, "The delay in the opening of the plant is costing the company 2 million pounds (2.96 million dollars) a week."

Kate Johnston, a Greenpeace spokeswoman, said, "If the plant gets the go-ahead there are going to be massive radioactive discharges into the air, sea and land around the site, an increase of some 1,000 percent. "Britain will be left with a huge amount of waste and could end up being the nuclear dustbin of the world."

**Bulgaria's Karabashev Discusses Trade**

*AU0312201793 Sofia BTA in English 1923 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, December 3 (BTA)—Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade Valentin Karabashev visited Japan on December 1 through 3. He met Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Tsutomu Hata; International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai; Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Chairman Toru Toyoshima; JETRO President Tenahiro Sudzuki; Exim Bank President Matsuhide Yamaguchi; International Economic Cooperation Fund Chairman Akira Nashigaki; Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Vice President Hideru Maki; and outstanding Japanese businessmen, the Bulgarian Embassy reported from Tokyo.

Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata reiterated Tokyo's policy of support for Bulgaria's democratic transition and assistance in the successful implementation of economic reforms. Mr. Karabashev and Mr. Hata expressed the desire of their governments to further advance intergovernmental dialogue and promote Bulgarian-Japanese economic and business contacts. The sides stressed that both countries are interested in the reopening of the credit line for insuring Japanese exports to Bulgaria. The guests raised the question of finding adequate ways to compensate Bulgaria's particularly

heavy losses sustained as a result of the strict enforcement of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro, focusing on Japan's possible support within the framework of bilateral relations and as a member of international organizations. Mr. Hata expressed the Japanese Government's understanding and its appreciation of Bulgaria's stand on the issue.

During their meeting, Bulgarian Minister of Trade Valentin Karabashev and Japanese Foreign Trade Minister Hiroshi Kumagai exchanged views on the opportunity of expanding the economic and business contacts between Bulgaria and Japan under the new conditions. Mr. Kumagai confirmed the opening of a procedure for the renewal of the export credit insurance line in accordance with the related requirements and conditions. He expressed Japan's readiness to exchange its experience in encouraging exports using the mechanism of export insurance. The two sides agreed on some joint activity projects aimed to promote bilateral economic cooperation.

The talks which the Bulgarian trade minister held with JETRO's leadership focused on the possibility of promoting contacts between the Bulgaria Trade Ministry and the Japanese organization. The Japanese side pledged to further assist the expansion of Bulgaria's export to Japan, participate in training programmes, and exchange business information.

Japan's technical assistance to Bulgaria and the opportunity of its financing Bulgarian environmental and infrastructure projects were discussed at the other meetings Mr. Karabashev had in Tokyo.

The Bulgarian deputy prime minister met with the chief executives of leading Japanese companies, including Marubeni and Sony, to discuss the possible forms of their cooperation with Bulgarian companies: coming out on third-countries' markets, setting up joint ventures, and Japanese investments in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian deputy prime minister opened a Bulgarian commercial exhibition in Tokyo which will be open to visitors until December 15.

#### **Foreigners' Disadvantages Seen as 'Inevitable'**

OW0412101593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0803 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—More than half the Japanese responding to a government survey regard disadvantageous treatment received by foreigners in Japan as inevitable, according to results released on Saturday [4 December].

Sixty-eight percent of respondents said that Japan should give foreigners staying in the country without Japanese citizenship the same human rights' protection as Japanese receive, up 6 percentage points from the previous survey in 1988. But 20 percent said it was

inevitable that foreigners would not be granted the same rights as Japanese, up 3 percentage points, though gave no specific reasons.

The survey, released on the first day of Human Rights Week, found that 38 percent of respondents recognized the disadvantageous treatment of foreigners as discrimination, up 5 percentage points from the previous survey. It said 54 percent thought such treatment inevitable because of different customs and habits, an increase of 5 percentage points, according to the survey, the sixth of its kind since 1965.

An official of the Justice Ministry's Civil Liberties Bureau said in response to the survey that the ministry will continue to promote the protection of human rights of foreigners in the country.

The prime minister's office conducted the survey on Japanese people's awareness of human rights in July, covering 3,000 people aged 20 or over across the country. The response rate was 75.8 percent.

#### **Akashi Interviewed on New Assignment**

OW0512002393 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Announcer-read report over video on "exclusive interview" with UN Under Secretary-General Yasushi Akashi on his new assignment to the former Yugoslavia; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] On 3 December, UN Under Secretary-general Yasushi Akashi granted an interview to NHK concerning his new assignment to the former Yugoslavia, and expressed his resolve to try his best to settle the conflicts in the region. He also expressed hope for Japan's positive contribution. On 2 December the United Nations announced its decision to assign Akashi as the UN secretary general's special representative to supervise all UN missions in the former Yugoslavia.

[Begin Akashi recording] The assignment was handed to me probably because I have completed my mission in Cambodia, and because the situation in the former Yugoslavia is the greatest problem facing the United Nations. I am excited about having this most challenging job. [end recording]

In the exclusive interview given to NHK, Under Secretary-general Akashi noted that, unlike in Cambodia, UN operations in the former Yugoslavia are under way without the conflicting parties having agreed on a ceasefire. He said he would like to break the ice via consultations with conflicting parties.

Referring to Japan's role in UN activities in the former Yugoslavia, Akashi said:

[Begin Akashi recording] Japan has become a major power in the international community, so Japan cannot be indifferent to happenings in Europe or Africa. Japan can do a lot for our efforts even within the framework of

the Japanese constitution and under the restrictions of public opinion. [end recording]

Under Secretary-general Akashi will leave for Europe on 5 December to observe Sarajevo and Zagreb before beginning his new duty.

### **Peacekeeping Contingent Returns From Mozambique**

*OW0312015193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0129 GMT  
3 Dec 93*

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Dec. 3 KYODO—Forty-eight members of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) returned home Friday [3 December] after ending a six-month U.N. peacekeeping mission in Mozambique.

The contingent, dispatched in May, had been on transport control duty for the U.N. peacekeeping operation.

Another 48-member force left Japan for Mozambique on November 22 to replace the first contingent.

The Japanese Government decided in November to extend the stay of its peacekeepers in Mozambique to July 1994, eight months beyond the original November deadline, after the U.N. decided to extend its efforts for six months until next April.

### **Pacifists Appeal to Hosokawa About Constitution**

*OW0612131093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. civic groups urged the Japanese Government Monday [6 December] to completely observe the principles of its war-renouncing constitution as a step toward a durable world peace.

The two Japanese groups and a U.S. group jointly filed the appeal with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa through the premier's secretary.

"We request the Japanese Government to recognize Article 9 as the most realistic and effective principle and method in order to create world peace," said a letter attached to the paper.

The groups also "request the Japanese Government to observe completely the principles of Article 9," it said.

In the joint appeal, they also urged the United Nations to introduce the principles of Article 9 of the pacifist constitution to make the world a more peaceful society.

Specifically, the groups proposed that the world body ask its member states to imitate the spirit of the Japanese charter, strive to create an arms-free and military-free world by the end of this century and ban production, import and export of weapons.

The three groups are the Article Nine Society (U.S.A.), Article Nine Society (Japan) and the Society for Globalization of the Peace Constitution (Preamble and Article Nine) of Japan. Their respective heads are Charles Overby, professor emeritus at Ohio University, Hiroshi Katsumori, professor at Chubu University, and Narihiko Ito, professor at Chuo University.

Article 9 says, "The Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes...Land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained."

### **Aichi Expresses 'Caution' on Peacekeeping**

*OW0612151793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1456 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—New Defense Agency chief Kazuo Aichi on Monday [6 December] expressed caution toward a more active role for Japan in United Nations peacekeeping operations, calling the status quo "suitable for the entire country."

"I am also negative on creating a special organization," Aichi said in an interview with reporters from major Japanese media organizations. "Concerning this you might hear the same comment from members (of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF])," he said referring to proposals to create a special peacekeeping unit within the SDF.

Aichi, a veteran legislator who replaced his Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party] colleague Keisuke Nakanishi as head of the Defense Agency last Thursday, apparently sought through his cautious remarks to downplay any division on the issue in the seven-party coalition.

Nakanishi resigned amid a parliamentary row sparked by his suggestion that Japan should amend its Constitution to allow the SDF to play a more active role in U.N. peacekeeping operations. His remarks were condemned not only by the opposition but also by the Social Democratic Party, the largest of the coalition parties.

On defense planning, Aichi said that given the changes in the international sphere "basic ways of thinking" must be clarified during the next fiscal year, starting in April.

Cuts in the strength of the Ground Self-Defense Force will be carried out in line with an overall reduction in forces, he said.

He voiced misgivings about the idea of setting up a U.N. peace enforcement group, arguing that the tasks and purposes of such troops have not yet been clearly defined. "If the aims of their duties involve use of weapons, we cannot participate," he said, clearly distancing himself from his predecessor Nakanishi, who advocated giving the SDF a combatant role in U.N. peacekeeping.

Aichi also appeared to rule out an idea put forward by Shinseito co-leader Ichiro Ozawa that the SDF could

fight alongside a U.N. standing army, despite the ban in Japan's Constitution on the use of force to settle international disputes.

"I think this is one view, but I feel it is a little bit out of touch with reality to believe that it fits our country," he said.

Asked about the defense budget in 1994, he said it is unlikely to be drastically cut, indicating his determination to demand budgetary appropriations giving at least the 1.95% rise in defense budget requests approved for the next current year.

### Ozawa Urged To Resume Press Briefings

OW0412115693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa, the ruling coalition's powerful back-room politician, has not spoken to the media for almost one month and is raising concerns that the process of government decision-making is being hidden from the public.

Ozawa, co-leader of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], the second largest force in the coalition government, has refused to hold a press conference since November 8 when he briefed reporters on his alleged receipt of back-door political contributions from Kajima Corp., one of the leading builders involved in an ongoing bribery scandal.

The row between Ozawa and the media started on October 25 when he barred the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN and the SANKEI SHIMBUN from his regular press conference, accusing the dailies of running inaccurate stories without asking him for comment.

Rejecting demands by journalists from other news organizations to lift the ban, Ozawa said, "press conferences are my service to you, not my duty."

Even in the face of problems such as political and tax reforms and the opening of the rice market, Ozawa has ignored the press and made it impossible for the public to find out about either his opinions or the degree of influence he is exerting behind the scene, sources said.

They said that it was Ozawa, not Tsutomu Hata, Shinseito's leader and foreign minister, who recommended Kazuo Aichi as the successor to Keisuke Nakanishi, who resigned Thursday as Defense Agency chief over his remarks on the revision of the Constitution. Both Aichi and Nakanishi are members of Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party).

Ozawa, a former Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) secretary general, deserted the party with dozens of other lawmakers to form Shinseito in June and was instrumental in ousting the LDP from 38 years in power and launching the seven-party coalition after the July general election.

Since then Ozawa has only met the press at news conferences, breaking the country's customary practice to holding "kondan"—backgrounders between politicians and selected reporters.

Ozawa has said relations will improve if the press compromises, but the row has continued with Ozawa insisting press briefings are his "service" and the media claiming he has a responsibility to make public his views on political issues, the sources said.

Shinseito's Kozo Watanabe, in charge of public relations, currently gives the party's press briefings.

Masayoshi Takemura, chief government spokesman and leader of Sakigake (Harbinger), also routinely meets the press at the prime minister's official residence twice a day on weekdays. But Ozawa is now reportedly being pressured to have second thoughts about the matter.

Junior Shinseito members have begun to suggest that Ozawa should resume his press conferences and express his opinions openly, the sources said.

Magazine reporters have also collected signatures calling for Ozawa to resume his briefings.

### LDP Candidate Mizote Wins Hiroshima Run-Off

OW0512123293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT  
5 Dec 93

[Text] Hiroshima, Dec. 5 KYODO—Kensei Mizote, a former mayor backed by the largest opposition Liberal Democratic Party, apparently won Sunday's [5 December] by-election in Hiroshima Prefecture for the House of Councillors seat vacated by another LDP politician, early returns show. It was the first election for a national-level seat since Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's coalition government came into power in August.

Mizote, 51, beat former Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly member Makoto Yamamoto, 56, who ran on a Social Democratic Party (SDP) ticket, and Japan Communist Party candidate Shoji Murakami, 46. Mizote, a former mayor of Mihara, succeeds Yuzan Fujita who quit the Diet to run for the Hiroshima gubernatorial race.

Voter turnout was low as Hosokawa's coalition failed to unite on a candidate and the SDP's Yamamoto won the backing of only the tiny United Social Democratic Party.

With 73 percent of the votes counted as of 9 P.M., Mizote has collected 232,363, Yamamoto 124,624 and Murakami 34,966. Mizote's victory boosts the LDP's strength in the 252-member upper house to 99, followed by the SDP's 73 and Komeito's 24.

**Kono: No Need To Meet With Hosokawa on Bills**  
*OW0512080493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0755 GMT  
 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Kyoto, Dec. 5 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President Yohei Kono denied Sunday [5 December] the need to hold a meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to discuss political reform bills currently pending in the House of Councillors.

"It is impossible to settle (the political reform bills) without debates in the upper house," Kono told a news conference.

The political reform bills, aimed chiefly at changing the election system for the powerful House of Representatives to help clean up Japan's money-driven politics, are pending in the upper house after the passage last month in the lower house.

Kono did not dismiss the possibility, however, of holding a meeting with Hosokawa, who heads the seven-party coalition government, on the subject of pump-priming measures to revive the nation's long-slumped economy.

"I may have to think of (a top meeting) depending on the government's actions," Kono said. "But I am not thinking (of it) now."

Kono also suggested that the LDP will demand that Hosokawa take political responsibility if the bills are not enacted within this year, saying, "The premier himself should think well about the seriousness of his language."

When he launched his cabinet in August, Hosokawa told reporters he would stake his political responsibilities on the passage of the bills by year's end.

As to a second supplementary budget for fiscal 1993 ending next March, Kono said the LDP is planning to propose a bill revised for increasing spending on public works projects and small- and medium-sized companies.

Kono also called on the coalition government to reduce income tax by more than 5 trillion yen, a level the government is said to have envisaged.

Kono also said he would oppose a move to raise the 3 percent consumption tax as a means to offset expected shortfalls in tax revenues resulting from the expected income tax break.

Meanwhile, Kozo Watanabe, a senior legislator of Shinseito, said in a television program that he doubts the income tax cut of some 5 trillion yen would stimulate consumer spending.

Watanabe demanded, rather, that the government relax tax measures currently applied to land and housing transactions.

Watanabe told another TV program that it is also necessary for Kono and Hosokawa to hold a top meeting

to realize the enactment of the political reform bills before the current Diet session's scheduled recess on December 15.

In the meeting, both leaders should promise to pass the bills through the Diet and then tackle drafting the fiscal 1994 budget and implementing measures to revitalize the economy, Watanabe said.

**Hosokawa Questioned on Sagawa Kyubin Loans**  
*OW0612135993 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1016 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Today's session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee stalled this evening after a member of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] pointed out that Prime Minister Hosokawa had failed to fully explain about his repayment of a 100-million-yen loan to the Sagawa Kyubin group.

At the Budget Committee session, Hakuo Yanagisawa from the LDP brought up the issue of 100 million yen that Prime Minister Hosokawa had borrowed from the Sagawa Kyubin group, and raised questions about the way the prime minister repaid the loan to Sagawa Kyubin. Mr. Yanagisawa said: Although Prime Minister Hosokawa said the retirement payment that he received from Kumamoto Prefecture when he resigned as governor had been included in the repayment, he was still serving as governor of Kumamoto Prefecture in late January 1991 after he claimed the loans were repaid, but the loans had not yet been repaid to Sagawa Kyubin Group. Land in Kanagawa Prefecture that had been held as mortgage for the loans was freed from the mortgage in March this year, two years after the time he said he repaid the loans. Mr. Yanagisawa pressed the prime minister, saying his explanations lacked consistency.

In response, Prime Minister Hosokwa said: At this time, I cannot remember the exact amount of money, but I repaid the loans with a substantial amount of my retirement payment and proceeds from sales of my inheritance. I repaid them in late January 1991. I have heard Sagawa Kyubin was responsible for a delay in freeing the land from mortgage.

Mr. Yanagisawa said he could not accept the prime minister's explanations and the session was stalled at 1600 [0700 GMT].

At a meeting of the executives of the ruling and opposition parties, the ruling parties proposed that the prime minister give detailed explanations tomorrow, and the ruling and opposition parties decided to discuss ways to deal with the case at a meeting of the executives to be held tomorrow morning.

### Diet Stalls Over Hosokawa's Reply

OW0612132093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Diet business came to a halt Monday [6 December] in a dispute over replies by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on how he repaid a loan of 100 million yen advanced to him by the scandal-ridden Sagawa Kyubin Co. The main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), dissatisfied with Hosokawa's reply, refused to continue questioning at the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

Representatives from the ruling coalition and opposition parties met later, however, and agreed to reopen business at 10 A.M. Tuesday, on condition Hosokawa tables a memo of replies.

The quarrel between seven parties in the ruling coalition and the LDP may lead to a delay of the second fiscal 1993 supplementary budget, officials said.

During Monday's Budget Committee session, Hakuo Yanagisawa of the LDP asked Hosokawa about how he repaid the 100 million yen debt to Kiyoshi Sagawa, founder of Sagawa Kyubin, a Kyoto-based parcel delivery firm.

Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co., which has since been absorbed into Sagawa Kyubin, was involved in a massive loan and loan guarantee scandal last year.

Retired LDP political power broker Shin Kanemaru was fined 200,000 yen last year for accepting 500 million yen in illicit political donations from the company. Earlier this year, Kanemaru was indicted on charges of evading more than 1 billion yen of taxes.

### Contracting Officials Indicted in Bribery Case

OW0612085193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Public prosecutors indicted a leading contractor's former honorary chairman and its vice president Monday [6 December] on charges of bribing then Ibaraki Governor Fujio Takeuchi in 1991.

Prosecutors also filed additional bribery charges against Takeuchi.

Indicted were Sukemasa Uera, current senior advisor to Tobishima Corp., and Soichiro, his son and vice president, investigators of the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office said.

Arrests were waived against the father and son, who have complied with prosecutors' requests to appear for questioning.

The two were charged with handing over a 10 million yen bribe to Takeuchi in a private room of an exclusive Japanese-style restaurant in Tokyo as a reward for the

governor's intervention in awarding lucrative public works projects to the firm, the prosecutors said.

Takeuchi, already under indictment on a number of bribery charges involving other leading contractors, was slapped with an additional charge of accepting the 10 million yen bribe from Tobishima, they said.

The fresh charge raised to 95 million yen the amount of alleged bribes the former governor received from various major construction firms, including Hazama Corp., Shimizu Corp. and Kajima Corp.

### Economic Advisory Panel Complains of 'Pressure'

OW0612132893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1316 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Members of an economic advisory group to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Monday [6 December] complained of tacit pressure being brought to bear on them by the premier's aides over the contents of a report being drawn up on a series of economic restructuring measures.

A call for an income tax reduction to perk up business quickly has been deleted from a draft, formulated by the advisory group for economic restructuring's drafting committee and submitted to the group on Monday, the members said. They also said a call for an increase in government investment in public works projects, currently set at 430 trillion yen over the 10 years up to 2000, has likewise been struck off the draft.

Members said the government is wary of the advisory group taking the initiative in recommending economic stimulus measures. They also said the group is obliged to hold back from making bold suggestions for fear that they might have an unfavorable effect on Diet deliberations on a supplementary budget.

Members also noted the proposed modification of the land tax system to promote housing construction has also been removed from the draft.

### Ministry Official Discusses Hiraiwa Report

OW0612102793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1014 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—An economic advisory panel to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa is likely to disappoint the international community with a report void of effective ways to restructure the economy and reduce Japan's trade surplus, a Foreign Ministry official said Monday [6 December].

The advisory group led by business leader Gaishi Hiraiwa has watered down some of the most far-reaching proposals, and will not present many new ideas when it releases its report later this month, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "There were great

expectations from foreign governments. My concern is that we might have to think about damage control," said the official.

The council abandoned a plan to predict a decline in the current account surplus, which it had hoped would send a signal to dissatisfied trade partners that Japan is committed to redressing its massive trade imbalances, the official said.

The forecast had originally been conceived of as a response to U.S. demands to include numerical targets for specific trade items.

The report also will not include short-term expansionary policies, the official said.

A proposal to establish an independent body to oversee deregulation has also been scrapped, the official said. "Bureaucrats cannot do it on their own. We need some outside body."

The official attributed the lack of new ideas to the heavy influence of bureaucrats who did not wish to see infringement on their territory, and the Finance Ministry in particular, which he said was opposed to any drastic fiscal measures.

The panel was launched amid considerable fanfare that it would steer Japanese economic policy on a new course over the next decade.

At its inauguration, the council was likened to a panel led by the late Haruo Maekawa, a former governor of the Bank of Japan, which in 1986 issued a report advising the nation's export-oriented economy be changed to one led by domestic demand.

Most of the report's recommendations were not carried out, but the trade surplus shrank because domestic demand grew during the period of the "bubble economy," a business boom marked by skyrocketing land and stock prices in the late 1980s.

### **Ministry Studying Economy-Boosting Measures**

*OW0612092193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The Finance Ministry is studying measures to stimulate Japan's slumping economy in formulating the fiscal 1994 budget, Vice Minister Jiro Saito said Monday [6 December]. It is "natural" that the ministry is considering such steps "from various points of view," he told a regular news conference, echoing comments earlier in the day by Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura.

Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii has said the budget will give the highest priority to reinvigorating the economy, but Saito said no concrete measures have been worked out.

Saito repeated the government is watching the faltering stock market with "great interest" after Tokyo shares

took their second-worst dive of the year on gloom that the government will not craft a quick pump-priming package.

He noted that trading volume was very thin on the Tokyo stock exchange, which can exaggerate the effect of even limited selling on the major indexes.

He also declined comment on a move within the Liberal Democratic Party, Japan's largest political group, to counter the coalition government's second fiscal 1993 supplementary budget with a plan of its own.

### **Key Rate 'Low Enough' To Support Recovery**

*OW0612080093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Monday [6 December] that the official discount rate has fallen to a level low enough to support Japan's national economic recovery after the current slump ends.

Answering questions before the House of Representatives Budget Committee, the central bank chief said low interest rates in Japan have bolstered corporate profits, although they may not have caused an expansion of economic demand. He noted the official discount rate, which the central bank charges on its loans to commercial banks, is at a record low level.

The BOJ cut the rate by 0.75 percentage point to 1.75 percent per annum on September 21.

### **Recession's Effect on 5-Year Plan Analyzed**

*OW0612073693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0717 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The collapse of the speculative "bubble" and the subsequent recession have at least some redeeming features for Japanese salaried workers, the Economic Council said in a report issued Monday [6 December].

The council, an advisory panel to the prime minister, said that viewed in terms of the aims of Japan's latest five-year economic program, the changes have brought house ownership more within reach for ordinary salaried workers and made people less workaholic.

But the depressed economy and the resulting rise in Japan's current account surplus are hardly helpful in creating a society in which the people can feel more spiritual affluence and live in harmony with the rest of the world, as envisaged by the fiscal 1992-1996 program, it said.

The five-year scheme, unveiled in June last year, features cutting down the nation's average annual working hours to 1,800 hours and enabling workers to buy houses near large cities at prices around five times their annual income by the final year.

Designed to create "a lifestyle superpower" with higher living standards, it also calls for more harmonious economic relations between Japan and the international community and its contributions to resolving environmental issues.

In the first follow-up on the plan, the council reported that Japan's working hours fell below the 2,000-hour threshold in fiscal 1992, ended in March this year, for the first time ever.

The price of condominiums, the key barometer of housing costs, has also fallen to a level around 5.5 times the average annual income of salaried workers, it found, attributing both phenomena to the economic slump. But in other areas, the economic distress only delays fulfillment of the program, as does the country's swelling external current account imbalances, it said.

The council said that for the program to be realized, further restructuring of the economy and society is essential, adding that the proposed restructuring should be primarily oriented toward consumers and be more tangible to everybody.

In concrete terms, the council proposed scrapping of suffocating government controls, improvement of the social infrastructure such as parks and sewerage systems, and further reduction of working hours.

Shifting economic and political activities more outside Tokyo is also among the priorities, as are policies for bettering Japan's poor housing situation, shortening lengthy commuting hours and easing rush-hour congestion.

The council also called for conclusion by the year-end of debate on the introduction of a product liability system for giving consumers better protection against faulty products.

Asked about the average economic growth target of 3.5 percent during the period anticipated by the program, an Economic Planning Agency official said putting the policies into practice would help attain that goal.

Japan's gross national product (GNP) contracted 0.5 percent, or an annualized 2.0 percent, in the April-June period of this year, after growing 0.8 percent in fiscal 1992.

#### 'No Immediate Plans' for Pump-Priming Measures

*OW0612050193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0451 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Monday [6 December] said the government has no immediate plans to take additional economic stimulus measures. Hosokawa made the remarks at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, dampening wide-spread speculation that the government would hold a meeting of coalition party leaders and announce such measures on Tuesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura also said many of the pump-priming measures under consideration at present would require legal revisions and therefore take time to implement.

Pump-priming measures will be considered in line with the national budget plan for fiscal 1994, which the government is to draw up in late December, he said. Concerning the fiscal 1994 budget, Hosokawa said, "the government should form the budget as soon as possible. I will make all efforts to compile it within this year."

During the lower house committee meeting, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii also indicated the government may implement income tax cuts separately from the proposed raise in consumption tax.

Yasushi Mieno, governor of the Bank of Japan, said the central bank will watch situations, saying, "easing interest rates does not directly lead to more consumption."

#### Oil Industry Reacts Negatively to Deregulation

*OW0612042693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0401 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Leaders of Japan's petroleum industry expressed a negative attitude toward deregulation Monday [6 December] by asking the government to extend the current legislation restricting imports, trade ministry officials said.

Executives of the Petroleum Association of Japan made the request during a morning meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai, the officials said.

Yasuoki Takeuchi, the association head, told Kumagai that the current high prices for petroleum products in Japan bear no relation to the law that applies to temporary measures for the import of specific oil products, legislation which restricts imports of gasoline and similar products to oil refining companies. This law is to be reviewed at the end of 1995.

The officials also said that the views of Yuji Idemitsu, president of Idemitsu Kosan Co., who has commented that imports should be liberalized in principle and unfair competition should be avoided, represent a minority opinion.

Kumagai reportedly replied that it is indispensable that policies promoting competition should be introduced, in order to reconstruct Japan's industry and economy.

Kumagai said the government will study whether the present import law should be extended, taking the industry's opinions into account, the officials said.

Association executives also asked Kumagai to reduce taxes on petroleum products to offset a possible hike in the consumption tax, if such an increase comes into effect, they said.

Kumagai replied that the government would consider the request in accordance with developments in future discussions on a possible consumption tax hike, which he described as an important issue subject to political decisions, they said.

**Welfare Minister on New Public Pension Formula**  
*OW0412120293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1139 GMT  
 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Kanazawa, Dec. 4 KYODO—Health and Welfare Minister Keigo Ouchi said Saturday [4 December] a proportionate pension payment scheme will be introduced when the eligible age is raised to 65 from the present 60. Under the scheme, he said, the amount of pension will be reduced in proportion to earnings during the five-year period.

At present, retirees are eligible for the full amount of pension, averaging 217,000 yen per month, at the age of 60.

The government plans to inaugurate a ministerial forum in January to review the pension system.

Ouchi said the new scheme is designed to promote employment for those in their early 60s. He said a monthly average of 107,000 yen will be paid to those between 60 and 64.

**Businesses Said To Reevaluate Labor Strategy**  
*OW0412011793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0012 GMT  
 4 Dec 93*

[By Ikuji Nakaya]

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—The worst recession since the oil shock of the 1970s is bringing "Japan Inc." to a turning point in its labor strategy. Japanese companies—the big ones at least—have long been known for their lifetime employment system with loyal salarymen staying with the same company all their working life, while the firms in turn guaranteed their jobs so long as they were faithful.

Employees were often kept on even when there was nothing for them to do, and they were dubbed "madogiwa-zoku," or those sitting by the window. But now there is a new term on the streets, "kata-tataki," literally meaning a tap on the shoulders, with the implication that the person is being requested to retire "voluntarily."

So what is happening in "Japan Inc.?"

"The Japanese employment system is based on the premise that there is high growth of the economy," says Professor Naohiro Yashiro of the Institute of International Relations at Sophia University in Tokyo.

In a speech on "Economic Interpretation of Japanese Employment System" at the Foreign Press Center of Japan, Yashiro said there were signs of a gradual change in the 1980s. But "in the late 1980s, companies were able

to set up subsidiaries at low cost to find positions for surplus workers at affiliated concerns," he said.

Yashiro, a former senior economist of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), said such companies were supported by the period of frenzied asset inflation that allowed them to raise funds cheaply.

Now, however, with companies trying to cut labor costs, more and more firms are striving to slim down their work force.

A Labor Ministry official has estimated the number of "surplus workers" in Japan at 400,000. Private economists, however, put the figure at over one million, possibly making Japan's "virtual" unemployment rate around 5 to 8 percent.

According to an October survey released this week by the Labor Ministry, the number of Japanese companies that said they have reduced the number of employees rose to 62.3 percent from 59.9 percent in August, and 63.5 percent said they are planning to slash their work force in the near future.

Other statistics gathered by the ministry showed that "only" 85 percent of male and 66 percent of female students due to graduate from their schools next spring had any job offers by the end of October.

The Management and Coordination Agency said earlier this week that Japan's jobless rate in October jumped to 2.7 percent, its highest level in almost six years and up 0.1 percentage point from September. But Yashiro, who was also once an Economic Planning Agency official, said it is unlikely that Japan will experience a serious jobless problem like that in Europe.

"Instead, from the long-term perspective, I think a shortage of labor will be a problem," Yashiro said, citing the increasing aging of Japan's population.

That aging of the population may serve to curb the competitiveness of Japanese industry, but at the same time, there are elements that offset such factors, Yashiro said. Experience shows that the lower the supply of labor, the higher becomes the production efficiency, he added.

Nevertheless, the structure of the Japanese employment system will eventually have to change, he said. "In some cases, Japanese management is applied in a more refined manner abroad, blending the Japanese efficiency with the fairness" found overseas, such as equality of men and women in the workplace, he said.

Yashiro predicts there will be a "convergence" of working customs in Japan and those in the United States and Europe, with Japan making more room for individualism and adopting a wage system based on abilities rather than seniority. In any case, Yashiro said, he does not believe Japan will lose much of its competitiveness because of the structural change of the working environment it will be forced to go through.

**Group Urges Stricter Controls on Effluents**

*OW0612104093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—An environmental advisory body proposed Monday [6 December] the introduction of stiffer controls on effluents containing the potentially carcinogenic trihalomethane, a substance produced when water is treated with chlorine.

The Central Council for Environmental Pollution Control handed its recommendations to Environmental Agency Director General Wakako Hironaka, officials said.

The council's recommendations include the introduction of controls on effluents containing substances responsible for the occurrence of trihalomethane and the compulsory establishment of all-purpose purification tanks in specified areas, as well as the building of sewerage facilities.

The Environmental Agency will prepare a framework comprehensive strategy for the cabinet to approve and incorporate as government policy on the maintenance of the nation's water quality, the officials said.

The agency hopes to legislate a package of measures covering restrictions on effluents from factories and the promotion of water quality projects, the officials said.

But the Health and Welfare Ministry is aiming to present to the current Diet session a bill aimed only at the promotion of sewerage projects in regions which are water sources.

Staff in the agency, however, argue that if the ministry's bill is presented first it will make it impossible to introduce restrictions on substances like trihalomethane. As a result, complications are expected before any bills are finally presented.

**North Korea**

**Foreign Ministry on U.S.-DPRK Meeting 3 Dec**

*SK0512083193 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0805 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] A spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry answered today a KCNA reporter's question on the hearsay [yoroni nadolgo innungotkwa kwallyonhayo] that the DPRK and the United States recently held a contact in New York:

The United States and we, the basic parties [kibon tangsaja] concerned with the nuclear issue, held a contact in New York on 3 December. We discussed specifics of what each side must do to resolve the nuclear issue. The contact was held in order for our side to deliver our position on the question raised by the U.S. side on 24 November. The ball still remains in the U.S. court. The two sides agreed not to make public the details of what was discussed.

**KCNA Reports Ministry Comment**

*SK0512083793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823  
GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave today the following answer to the question of the KCNA as to the circulating report about the recent contact between the DPRK and the United States in New York:

There was a contact between the United States, the party chiefly responsible for the nuclear problem, and us in New York on December 3. At the contact the sides discussed at length what they should do to resolve the nuclear issue. The purpose of the contact was to convey our side's stand towards the matter raised by the U.S. side on November 24. The ball is still in the court of the U.S. side. The sides agreed not to disclose what was discussed in detail.

**Safeguards Said Ensured If Package Deal Accepted**

*SK0612103293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018  
GMT 6 Dec 93*

[“DPRK’s Stand on Guarantee of Continuity of Safeguards on Nuclear Facilities”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 6 (KCNA)—The councillor of the mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Vienna made a speech at the December meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency held on December 3.

He, first of all, protested the discriminative acts of the Australian governor, the chairman of the meeting, such as letting the DPRK speak last at the meeting discussing its compliance with the safeguards agreement.

He strongly demanded that the board of governors maintain the fair and democratic way of steering the meeting which had been observed in the discussion of the DPRK's problem in the past.

He expressed regret at the fact that some governors were still resorting to the old way of solving the “nuclear problem” of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by means of putting pressure on it, quoting unfair “resolutions.”

The “nuclear problem” of the DPRK was caused by the hostile policy of the United States toward it and it has become complicated today because the United States encouraged some officials of the IAEA secretariat to such an illegal act as abusing the safeguards agreement in pressuring the DPRK to open its military sites, putting satellite information in their hands, he noted, and stressed:

At the DPRK-U.S. talks the sides admitted that the two countries are the parties with responsibility and

authority for the solution of this problem. True to its promise to the United States, the DPRK allowed the IAEA to continue the readjustment and replacement of the inspection cameras and their seals so as to guarantee that none of its nuclear facilities is used for a military purpose. Only recently, we informed the IAEA on several occasions of our readiness to accept its inspection teams for readjusting and changing inspection cameras anytime it requests. This stand of ours will remain unchanged till the nuclear problem will have been solved through DPRK-U.S. negotiation. Considering the characteristics and size of our nuclear facilities, they can fully confirm only by continuously grasping nuclear activities with inspection cameras and their seals that our nuclear material are not used for a military purpose. Though inspection cameras and their seals are enough for the continuity of safeguards, we, taking into account the circumstances of the United States, manifested our magnanimous stand that the scope of inspection might be further expanded and already held informal contacts with it. And, we proposed a working-level negotiation with the IAEA when the next inspection for changing the inspection cameras is made. The United States, however, is acting against the principles agreed upon at the DPRK-U.S. talks and our efforts for the settlement of the nuclear problem. U.S. officials continue threatening us and are declaring that the "Team Spirit" military manoeuvres, a nuclear war rehearsal against the DPRK, will be continued. And it has brought the third-stage DPRK-U.S. talks to a rupture, setting a precondition that it will continue the talks only when the DPRK accepts an "overall inspection" by the IAEA. The United States is rendering the situation complicated, building up the public opinion that the DPRK must comply with the safeguards agreement. The United States is trying to create preconditions for taking sanctions against and putting pressure on the DPRK, not getting themselves on the move. Facts show that, though the DPRK is honestly observing the spirit of the agreement reached at the DPRK-U.S. talks, the United States is sticking to its unreasonable stand, urging the DPRK to move first. We make it clear once again that, under the specific circumstances, inspection cameras and their seals are enough to ensure the continuity of safeguards on our nuclear facilities. It is an expression of good faith that we allowed the IAEA to grasp our nuclear activities and it fully shows our efforts to settle the nuclear problem. It is groundless for the dishonest forces to allege that the continuity of safeguards on the nuclear activities of the DPRK has been broken. It is self-evident that if there is no work for the continuity of safeguards, it would be broken. In this case, the continuity of safeguards is broken for the lack of the willingness to ensure it, not because of insufficient technical means installed at nuclear facilities. So, whether the continuity of safeguards on the DPRK's nuclear facilities is ensured, or not, depends on whether the IAEA Secretariat feels it necessary, or not.

The experience indicates that our nuclear problem can be solved only through DPRK-U.S. talks. Recently, we proposed to the United States the formula of package

solution of the nuclear problem and the United States said it was willing to take note of our proposal. We believe that the prospect of routine and ad hoc inspection will be opened according as the DPRK-U.S. talks progresses.

We declare once again that there will be no change in our stand of fully ensuring the continuity of safeguards until an agreement on the formula of package solution will have been reached between the DPRK and the United States.

### **U.S. 'Aerial War Exercises' Reported 2, 3 Dec**

*SK0512035193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] According to military sources, the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the puppets conducted a large-scale joint aerial war exercise aimed at attacking the North on 2 and 3 December, mobilizing pursuit-assault planes, vertical take-off and landing attack planes, commanding planes, and mid-air refueling tankers from overseas bases.

On 3 December, overseas-based flying corps and some 100 fighter-bombers, attack planes, and observation planes of the U.S. Air Force stationed in South Korea and the puppet air force were mobilized in an intensive bombing exercise conducted in the skies above Pyongchang, Yongwol, and Wonju.

Prior to this, on 2 December, some 150 military planes of various types were mobilized in an aerial strike exercise staged in the skies above Umsong, Sangju, and Haengsong. The war exercise, conducted under the command of an E-3 early-warning plane mobilized from the base in Okinawa, Japan, was a dangerous play with fire aimed at increasing their capabilities of making a surprise attack on the North and at enhancing cooperation between overseas-based flying corps and military planes of the U.S. Air Force stationed in South Korea and the puppet air force.

On 2 and 3 December, some 200 military planes of various types were mobilized in the skies above Kumi, Wonju, and Haesong and ran madly about in the exercise aimed at holding air supremacy and spotting targets under various conditions and unfavorable weather.

Squadrons of assault planes and armed helicopters mobilized in the skies over Kapyong and Chunchon engaged in the exercise covering and commanding ground forces. The U.S. imperialists, in order to guarantee the provocative war exercise, on 2 December mobilized KC-135 refueling tankers from the base in Guam and made a stir refueling in the air fighter-bombers running amok in the war exercise.

Approximately 750 fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes, vertical take-off and landing attack planes, observation planes, reconnaissance planes, and armed helicopters were mobilized in various aerial war exercises conducted in the skies above South Korea on 2 and 3 December.

In the meantime, puppet tank groups mobilized in areas near Kumpa-ri, Paju County, fired some 100 rounds of tank gun shells at areas adjacent to Hapo-ri, across the Imjin River.

On 2 and 3 November, the puppet Army's artillery units, which set up fire-control posts near Majon-ri, Hapsu-ri, Yongchon County; Yongsan-ri, Chongja-ri, Paju County; Sansa-ri, Naedu-ri, Chrowon County of South Korea's Kangwon Province, boosted a war atmosphere by firing some three hundreds of gun shells at areas near the DMZ.

We cannot but take such military provocations by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets seriously since they are staged more frantically than ever before at a time when unusual outbursts threatening our Republic are ringing out.

#### KCNA on 'Joint Air War Exercises'

SK0512084693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801  
GMT 5 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets staged large-scale joint air war exercises against the North on December 2 and 3, according to military sources.

Involved in the exercises held in the sky above South Korea were more than 750 warplanes of various types including fighter-bombers, assault and reconnaissance planes.

In separate action in the same period tank groups and artillery units of the South Korean puppet army took firing positions in Paju, Yonchon and Chorwon counties adjacent to the demilitarized zone along the Military Demarcation Line and incited a war atmosphere, firing hundreds of shells.

We cannot but take a very serious note of such war moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets which have become more frenzied along with recent ill-boding blasts threatening our republic.

#### 'International Cooperative System' Criticized

SK0512054493 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Text] Western imperialist reactionaries and their sub-serving trumpets have recently been showing very ill-boding moves that get on our nerves, babbling about a so-called international cooperative system.

They are raising a clamor misleading public opinion by fabricating the so-called suspicions of our nuclear development. They are kicking up a row that an international cooperative system should be formed so as to impose collective pressure and sanctions to make us accept overall inspections [chonmyon sachal], dramatizing the

situation as if the continuity of the safeguards of our country's nuclear activities is about to be broken.

Worse still, very irresponsible and insane [kwanggijogin] outbursts, such as bombing the objects to deter the North's nuclear development and not excluding a possibility of a war, are enumerated. Grave obstacles are created in way of resolving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula because of very ill-boding moves of the insidious forces who joined their hands with each other under the cloak of the international cooperative system.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has noted: Our position regarding the nuclear inspections is clear and there is no reason whatsoever for one to have any question about this. However, clamoring over the issue noisily and attempting to tarnish our Republic's reputation in the international community are moves that can only be interpreted to mean that they are seeking another purpose.

As it has already been known, we have repeatedly made clear that we have neither the will, nor the ability, nor the necessity to develop nuclear weapons. The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula was created because the United States brought in numerous nuclear weapons to South Korea and employed the policies of resorting to nuclear threats against us. These days, the nuclear issue is getting complicated and is entering a new phase because the insidious forces carried out special inspection [tukbyol sachal] commotions, finding faults with our nonexistent nuclear issue, and invariably pursued the policy of hostile and crush [apsal].

Since the talks for resolving the nuclear issue started, we have exerted all the efforts and worked faithfully to implement the points agreed in the talks. In particular, to fundamentally eliminate the so-called suspicions of our nuclear development, we made a bold decision to replace our existing graphite moderated reactor system with the light water moderated reactor system even to sacrifice the self-reliance of our nuclear energy industry and expressed a generous [aryanginnun] stance, taking into account of a dialogue partner's position. Moreover, we proposed a package solution out of the aspiration to fundamentally resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula on the basis of peace and fairness. Thus, we have taken all possible practical measures to resolve the nuclear issue.

In the course of this, transparency [tumyongsong] and innocence [kyolbaeksong] of our nuclear activities have been clearly proved and evoked support and sympathy from the world's public opinion.

The insidious forces, nonetheless, continue to circulate a rumor on suspicions of our nuclear development, which has been clearly unveiled, and now outspokenly challenge to harm and crush [apsal] us by forming the so-called international cooperative system.

All of these facts show that they do not have an intention of actually resolving the nuclear issue but are only pursuing a goal of isolating and crushing [apsal] our socialist system.

The international cooperative system is the product of the old cold war-type confrontation concept of the insidious forces that do not want dialogue or the resolution of the nuclear issue with us but attempt to impose their unjust will on us with coercion and by force. The dangerous nature contained in it is that the international reactionaries led by the United States, including the South Korean puppets and the Japanese reactionaries, are attempting to attack and crush [apsal] our Republic, the fortress of socialism. The insidious forces, including the United States, are making every effort to drag other nearby countries as well into this mean and extremely dangerous international stratagem.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit talks, held recently in Seattle, a series of contacts held behind the scenes during these talks, and the subsequent U.S.-South Korea summit talks held in Washington show that the machinations of the insidious forces attempting to form the international cooperation system with hostile purpose against the Republic are being pushed ahead at a very dangerous stage. The insidious forces are maneuvering, in order to carry out this criminal objective, to distort the essential nature and truth of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula by fabricating the rumor on nuclear suspicion against us, to raise suspicion against us, and to impose international pressure and sanctions on our Republic, using the fictitious fabrication concerning our nuclear weapons development.

Today, the insidious forces, babbling about the international cooperation system, are attempting to refer our nuclear issue to the UN arena so as to induce the so-called resolution on sanctions. This is nothing but a mean machinations attempting to justify their unjust act under the veil of the so-called will of the international community. It is clear to everyone that the resolution of this nature, which is nothing but an illegitimate child of the insidious political machinations, cannot represent the will of the international community.

All the maneuvers of the insidious forces for the international cooperation system are the manifestation of their reckless act resulting from the neurotic spasm of those who are obsessed by tension and anxiety because they have difficulty in sustaining their unjust position by means of fair and principled dialogue and negotiation in resolving the nuclear issue. Therefore, this reflects the vulnerability of the weak who are unable to sustain themselves before justice and truth.

Facts clearly show whether the United States truly intends to resolve the nuclear issue through dialogue or it intends, as it did before, to pursue a hostile policy toward Korea aimed at crushing it. However, if the insidious forces think they can crush us by coercing us into accepting their unjust demands with collective pressure

and sanctions through the international cooperation system, they are miscalculating. Pressure is unworkable to us. The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula can never be resolved by pressure. It can only be resolved through dialogue and negotiation. If the United States truly wants to have solve the nuclear issue, it should not resort to the means of pressure, such as sanctions, but come to the talks with sincerity.

#### Daily Calls U.S. 'Number One Arms Dealer'

*SK0412042693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[“World's Number One Arms Dealer”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON Friday branded the United States as the number one arms dealer in the world that sells more weapons than in the Cold War period. Their sale of up-to-date weapons of destruction has brought grave consequences; it has disturbed peace and security in the Korean peninsula, the Middle East and Asia and aggravated the situation in these parts of the world.

The paper in a by-lined article titled “Arms Sale Against Disarmament” says:

The sales of U.S. weapons have been on a steady increase these years.

According to data issued by the technology assessment office of U.S. Congress, the total amount of export of U.S. weapons in 1988 was more than double that of the other member nations of NATO and in 1990 it jumped to 18.5 billion dollars, placing the United States on the top of the world's list in arms dealing. The U.S. Defense Information Center announced that in 1991 the United States sold a total of 63 billion dollars worth of weapons to some 140 countries.

With the Persian Gulf war as an occasion, the United States has sold various types of modern weapons to this area and is massively selling sophisticated military equipment and weapons to Japan and South Korea.

The U.S. Administration is transferring latest-type military hardware to the South Korean warhawks. It has decided to transfer 120 nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers to them. Last year, the United States decided to sell to South Korea 37 AH-64 attack helicopters, 775 hellfire missiles, 30 mm ammunition and lots of other means of war. Recently, it has decided to sell to it 190 new-type medium-range missiles and 127 short-range air-to-air missiles.

The United States must not merely talk about peace and disarmament but put them into practice.

**Exiled DPRK Officer on Military Situation**  
*OW0112162393*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo Asahi Television Network in Japanese at 0219 GMT on 28 November, as part of its 105-minute talkshow "Sunday Project" which begins at 0100 GMT carries an approximately 15-minute report on an exclusive interview with exiled North Korean Lieutenant Im Yong-sum by "Korea Report" chief editor Byon Jin-il in Seoul. In the recorded interview conducted in an unidentified room in Seoul, Im Yong-sum speaks in Korean with superimposed Japanese translation. The date of the interview is not given.

Concerning North Korea's alleged construction of various facilities underground, Im Yong-sum, who was reportedly in charge of facilities construction, says: "[In building underground facilities] North Korea is making use of Iraq's Gulf war experience, wherein the U.S. military and allied forces made saturation air raids and Iraqi airfighters were unable to demonstrate their abilities. Therefore, an effort is being made in North Korea to build a runway underground so that airplanes can be launched even if a runway is destroyed."

With regard to the DPRK's suspected development of the "No Dong" missile, the exiled officer notes: "Missile launch pads have been built in Hape, North Hamgyong, and in Munchon, Kangwon; and another missile launch pad is under construction in Chungan [as heard] in a border area near China. These are the major launch pads. When I was building military facilities, I heard that the existing missiles are deployed to counterattack Japanese and U.S. air raids, and at that time, I firmly believed that if we got serious about it, our missiles could destroy even Japan, the United States, or South Korea."

Asked if he thinks North Korea already has nuclear weapons, Im Song-sum answers: "Yes. In North Korea, even rank-and-file soldiers think so. All North Korean executive military officers know that two facilities located in Yongbyong are the nuclear facilities. If these two facilities are open to inspections, North Korea's nuclear development technology will be revealed." He then notes that when he was in North Korea, he believed that North Korea had already developed nuclear weapons as a nuclear deterrent. He then stresses if North Korea should provoke a war, the United States would join the war, and therefore, Japan's participation in the war would be inevitable, noting: "As a preemptive strike, North Korea would attack U.S. military bases in Japan and then launch air raids on Japan's major military bases." He says all the soldiers were ordered this year to prepare for a semi-war.

Im Song-sum then discusses growing dissatisfaction with Kim Chong-il within the military. He also speaks about North Korea's food situation. He says the "living condition of the people living beyond Pyongyang is miserable."

The interview ends at 0234 GMT.

**Meeting Held To Welcome South Korean Defector**  
*SK0212115993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043  
GMT 2 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 2 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass meeting was held at the central workers' house today to welcome Sin Tong-yul, business executive of the Taejon Foodstuffs Co. Ltd in South Korea, who had defected to the Northern half of the country some time ago.

An order of the DPRK and prize money were awarded and souvenirs were conveyed to him at the meeting.

In his welcome speech, Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Committee, praised the defection of Sin Tong-yul to the Northern half as an expression of his ardent longing for Korean-style socialism centred on the masses and his unshakable will to join in the noble ranks of the Korean people advancing under the banner of socialism.

In his reply speech, Sin Tong-yul said although it is not long since he came over to the DPRK, he was deeply impressed by the wise guidance of the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who administers man-centred politics.

"Respected President Kim Il-song and dear Mr. Kim Chong-il are great leaders peerless in our nation's history of five thousand years. The people in the North under their government are blessed people, indeed," he said.

"I was deeply moved, watching on TV the participants of the 7th Congress of the Korean Journalists Union shouting 'Kim Il-song,' 'Kim Chong-il' and 'single-hearted unity' and expressing their will to cast in their lot with the party," he noted, adding that this proud sight can be seen only in the Northern society.

He emphasized that the socialist DPRK is the only country under the most tested, illustrious leader in the world and a powerful country where the leader and the people are united in one mind.

Turning to the pains he was feeling in his heart because he failed to bring his wife and daughter to the North, he denounced the Kim Yong-sam clique and the "Security Planning Board," a plot-breeding centre, as a group of traitors trifling with the destiny of the people in the South.

**Infiltration of ROK 'Combatant Ships' Noted**  
*SK0612044893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441  
GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets perpetrated a grave military provocation Sunday [5 December] by infiltrating combatant ships deep into the territorial waters of the North side on the West Sea.

They sent three combatant ships based at Taechong Island to the territorial waters of the North side at about 13:58.

The ships sailed up to the waters near Mahap Island off Jejak-ri, Ongjin County, South Hwanghae Province, in a battle formation with a hostile scheme.

Naval patrol boats of the Korean People's Army firmly defending the sea post of the socialist motherland like an impregnable fortress quickly set out to the spot and coastal artillery pieces took a combat posture for a self-defensive measure.

Upset by this, the ships fled South hurriedly.

The South Korean puppets' reckless infiltration of ships is a deliberate and premeditated military provocation to artificially aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean puppets must refrain from rash acts, pondering over the possible grave consequences of their military provocation.

If they persistently follow the road of confrontation and war, defying our repeated warnings, our people and the People's Army will mete out a thousand-fold severe punishment to the aggressors.

#### **Radio Reports Ship Infiltration**

*SK0612021493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0111 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] The South Korean puppets committed a grave military provocation by illegally infiltrating a combat ship deep into our side's territorial waters on the West Sea yesterday [5 December]. At around 1358 [1058 GMT] yesterday, in broad daylight, the South Korean puppets infiltrated three combat ships from Taechongdo into our side's territorial waters. The combat ship group, which infiltrated deeply into our side's territorial waters, undertook a combat formation near Chaejak-ri, Ongjin-county, South Hwanghae Province with the purpose of realizing a hostile attempt.

The Korean People's Army's Navy patrol ships, which were thoroughly defending the sea guardpost of our socialist fatherland, immediately went to the spot and the sea-based cannons [haesangpo] undertook a combat posture to take a self-defensive measure. Taken by surprise, the rascals hurriedly fled southward.

The South Korean puppets' reckless maritime infiltration activity is a deliberate and premeditated military provocation to aggravate artificially the tension on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean puppets should deeply consider the grave consequence of the rascals' military provocation and should not act rashly.

If the South Korean puppets constantly go down the road of confrontation and war in spite of our repeated warning, our people and People's Army will impose a thousand-fold stern retaliation against the aggressors.

#### **Wrecked Fishing Boat Returned to North's Port**

*SK0412083893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0805 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] A DPRK fishing boat which drifted into South Korean waters was returned. Our fishing boat of the Wonsan Fisheries Office, which wrecked yesterday while fishing in the sea off Kosong and drifted into the South Korean sea zone, was returned to our port in the East Sea early this morning.

#### **Commentary Opposes Opening ROK Rice Market**

*SK0512093893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0819 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[“Rice Market Opening Must Be Checked”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—The opposition of the South Korean people to the ruling forces' criminal scheme to open the rice market is an only too natural patriotic action, stresses NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The South Korean rulers must manifest their clear stand towards market opening and promptly cancel the decision to open it, as demanded by the people, the analyst says, and goes on:

Whether the rice market opening by the authorities in South Korea is checked or not is a vital problem on which depend the existence of the peasants and the destiny of agriculture, because rice market opening will have a catastrophic effect on the South Korean peasants and the whole economy including agriculture. The South Korean ruler declared that he would “deal with” the problem of market opening from the stand of “state interests” and “contribute to the expansion of trade liberalisation” by “promoting import liberalisation”. This means that he would open wider all the spheres of South Korea including the rice market.

The rice market opening scheme of the South Korean ruling quarters is an unpardonable anti-national criminal act of killing the peasants and pushing the whole economy including agriculture to a chaotic crisis. It is nonsensical to talk about “state interests” while killing the peasants and destroying agriculture.

The South Korean present “regime” under “civilian” veil is a “regime” more treacherous than the past military dictatorial “regimes” and the present ruler is a special-class flunkeyist traitor outdistancing his predecessors.

If the South Korean ruling forces commit the treachery of rice market opening, turning a deaf ear to the demand of the people, they will have to pay dearly for this.

**Envoy to Russia Denounces Japan, ROK Armament**

*SK0412010793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] On 29 November, a news conference was held at our country's embassy in Russia to denounce the nuclear armament maneuvers of Japan and the South Korean authorities. Reporters from Russian newspapers, news agencies, and radio attended the press conference. Our country's Ambassador Son Song-pil spoke.

After elaborating on the contents of the press statement issued by our country's Foreign Ministry spokesman on 26 November, the ambassador said:

The nuclear armament maneuvers carried out by the Japanese and South Korean authorities have entered a grave stage. According to a report, it is said that Japan is introducing a fast breeder reactor system. Even though the fast breeder system requires a lot of plutonium, it can produce more plutonium than it consumes.

If all nuclear reactors in Japan are turned into a fast breeder reactor system, Japan can obtain an enormous amount of plutonium. Then, Japan can produce nuclear weapons at any time. Japan's nuclear armament maneuvers cause great concern to various countries in the world.

In a recent report about Japan's nuclear armament, even the U.S. Department of Defense held that the United States should urge Japan to basically review its nuclear energy policy and to stop the plan to construct [word indistinct] of fast breeder reactor.

The South Korean authorities' maneuvers to develop nuclear weapons have become less undisguised. According to a report, South Korea has already amassed plutonium amounting to 10 tonnes and it will have amassed approximately 24 tonnes of plutonium by the year 2,000.

It is not a secret that Japan and South Korea are developing nuclear weapons with their own strength. In spite of this, the Japanese and South Korea authorities, by using our nonexistent nuclear weapons as a pretext, are obstructing the solution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. They are employing all kinds of maneuvers to prevent the DPRK-U.S. talks from making progress. By doing so, they are running wild to buy time in a bid to accelerate the development of nuclear weapons and find a pretext for nuclear armament.

If the DPRK-U.S. talks are held successfully and, thus, if the nuclear issue is completely resolved on the Korean peninsula, Japan and South Korea will lose their pretext for accelerating their nuclear armament. For this reason, they are maneuvering to frustrate the DPRK-U.S. talks, placing the responsibility upon us, and attempting to impose international sanctions against us. Thus, the attitude and position of the Japanese and South Korean authorities toward the DPRK-U.S. talks to impartially

resolve the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula become a touchstone in determining whether they constantly take the road to nuclear armament or whether they want peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and Asia.

There will be grave irrevocable consequences if Japan and the South Korean authorities obstruct the solution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and if they indiscreetly accelerate their nuclear armament.

Japan and the South Korean authorities should immediately stop their maneuvers of nuclear development and nuclear armament, should look straight at the trends of the times, and act with discretion.

The United States should make a substantial progress for nuclear nonproliferation, by preventing Japan and the South Korean authorities from attempting to frustrate the hard won DPRK-U.S. talks and from developing nuclear weapons.

The ambassador answered questions posed by reporters.

**Japan Urged To 'Repent' for 'Crime-Woven Past'**

*SK0512093593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[“Liquidation of Past Is Unavoidable”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—It has been disclosed recently that the “edict” of the Korean Emperor Kojong on the disbandment of the Korean Army toward the end of July 1907 was a faked document forged personally by Hirobumi Ito, the then “resident-general” of Japan in Korea. Earlier, it had been proven by historical materials that the “Ulsan Five-Point Treaty” imposed upon Korea by Japan was an illegal and invalid forgery.

NODONG SINMUN today says that the forgery of “treaties” and “imperial edicts” by the Japanese imperialists for the legalisation of their occupation of Korea and colonial rule was a flagrant violation of international law and usage and a rare swindle undermining international justice and morality.

The analyst notes:

With the confirmation that the “treaties” and “imperial edicts” faked up by Japan in the past for its occupation and domination of Korea were illegal and invalid forgeries, it has been made clear beyond dispute that the Japanese imperialists’ occupation of Korea and colonial rule was totally illegal brigandism from the very beginning.

Such being the case, the Japanese Government must admit its responsibility for the past crimes, honestly repent of them and make compensations. It, however, does not budge an inch from its old claim that the past “treaties” were “effective” at that time and the colonial rule over Korea was “legal.” This indicates that the mode of thinking of the Japanese authorities is little different from that of their predecessors who occupied

Korea and established a colonial rule over it. Their justification of the past colonial rule reveals their intention to repeat the history of crimes.

The Japanese Government must sincerely repent of the crime-woven past, apologize for it and make adequate compensations. If it is willing to properly liquidate the wrong past, it must make public the background of the forgery of the "treaties" and "imperial edicts" and materials about forcible drafting of Koreans and "comfort women for the army" and correctly probe the truth and honestly fulfil its obligations to history such as apology and compensation.

#### **Japan Urged To Take 'Sincere Attitude' on Past**

*SK0412114993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037  
GMT 4 Dec 93*

[“NODONG SINMUN Urges Japan To Liquidate Its Past With Sincere Attitude”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says Japan must feel disgrace at its moral inferiority and, first of all, liquidate its past with a sincere attitude.

In a signed article headlined “Japan must feel disgrace at its moral inferiority” the paper notes that the Japanese ruling quarters are trying to act “a world’s political power morally perfect and possessed of international leadership ability”, while avoiding the liquidation of the past on any account.

It goes on:

Far from apologizing and compensating for their illegal occupation and truculent colonial rule over Korea in the past, first of all, the Japanese ruling quarters seek to “legalize” it, fully revealing their shamelessness to the world.

They must admit the invalidity of the “Ulsan Five-Point Treaty” of 1905 and all the ensuing “treaties” and “agreements” claimed to have been “signed” with old Korea and apologize and compensate for the illegal occupation and colonial rule over Korea.

They, however, claim that the Japanese imperialists’ occupation of Korea and their colonial rule over it were “legal” and the “treaties” were “effective” in those days. Their brigandish argument is a product of the crafty intrigues of the Japanese reactionaries to prettify the past crimes of aggression of Japanese imperialism and evade the responsibility for the colonial rule over Korea.

The shameless attitude of Japan avoiding the liquidation of the past and post-war compensation arouses fiercer international criticism when it is compared with the attitude toward post-war compensation taken by Germany and Italy whose cases were the same with Japan. The Japanese ruling quarters, lost to shame, let out a string of fine-sounding words such as “friendship”, “cooperation” and “international contribution” in face

of international criticism and condemnation, but it is as ridiculous an act as wrapping stinking filth in a silk cloth and waving beautiful flowers.

No matter what engaging smile they may wear with “beautiful flowers” in their hands under the eyes of the world, they can never keep the filth under their feet from reeking of stench as long as they avoid sincere liquidation of the past.

The Japanese ruling quarters are trying to avoid liquidating the past even under the international criticism because they are intending to repeat the past crimes.

#### **Koreans in Japan Urge Japan-DPRK Relations**

*SK0412112393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013  
GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, December 1 (KNS-KCNA)—Kiichi Tsunoda, Social-Democratic member of the House of Councillors and chairman of the Gunma Prefectural People’s Council for Japan-Korea friendship and solidarity, Satao Sakaino, vice-chairman of the council, and Kunio Miyakawa, its general secretary, who are representatives of the council and the vice-chairman of the Gunma Prefectural Headquarters of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan visited the Foreign Ministry of Japan on November 25 and handed to a delegate of the Japanese side to the negotiation for normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations a paper signed by 20,000 people calling for an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and a written request addressed to the foreign minister.

The request urged the Japanese Government to approach the negotiation with a sincere attitude in the spirit of the three-party joint declaration and make efforts to turn Japan into a “near and close country” to the DPRK from a “nearby yet far-off country” through an early normalization of diplomatic relations with it.

#### **Jordanian Prince Arrives in Pyongyang 4 Dec**

*SK0512092793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0805  
GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and his party arrived here Saturday.

The Ministry of People’s Armed Forces gave a reception for them in the evening.

Prior to the reception, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People’s Army Choe Kwang met and had a talk with the guests in a friendly atmosphere.

#### **Meets President Kim Il-song**

*SK0512094693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825  
GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received His Royal

**Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and his party on a visit to Korea.**

Present on the occasion were chief of General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang and Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Chang Sung-kil.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

His royal highness prince of Jordan presented him with a gift.

President Kim Il-song entertained the guests to a luncheon.

**Delivers Gift for Kim Chong-il**

*SK0512094993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826  
GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was presented with a gift by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on a visit to Korea.

The prince handed the gift to an official concerned.

**Government Science Delegation Returns From PRC**

*SK0512134493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 2 Dec 93*

[Text] A delegation of our country's government for scientific and technological cooperation headed by Kim Ung-ho, vice chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology, which visited China, returned home by train on 2 December.

**Delegations Depart for China, Cuba 6 Dec**

*SK0612110793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034  
GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 6 (KCNA)—A delegation of Kim Il-song University led by its First Vice President O Kil-pang to visit China and a naval delegation of the Korean People's Army led by Admiral Kim Il-chol to visit Cuba left here today.

**Hydraulic Power Company Decision Signed in PRC**

*SK0412042193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406  
GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Beijing, December 2 (KCNA) [dateline as received]—A decision of the 46th meeting of the Council of the Korea-China Hydraulic Power Company was signed in Beijing on December 2. It was signed by Yi Chong-song, vice-chairman of the Commission of the Electric Power Industry of Korea, and Wang Xucheng, vice-minister of Power Industry of China.

**Premier Greets Lao Counterpart on National Day**

*SK0512135993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 1 Dec 93*

[Text] Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, sent a congratulatory message to Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the government of Lao People's Democratic Republic. The message said that he sends warm [yolyolhan] congratulations on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The message noted that since the founding of the Republic, the Lao people effected a great advance forward by accelerating the building of a new society and by overcoming various difficulties under the correct leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. The message pointed out that the traditional friendship and cooperative relations between the two countries will be strengthened and developed. The message noted that he sincerely wishes the prime minister a greater success in his work for the independent development of the nation.

**Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Thai King**

*SK0412120693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045  
GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Thai King Phumiphol Adunyadet on his birthday.

He wished the king and the Thai people success in their work for the prosperity and independent development of the country and expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would continue to favourably develop in the future.

**Kim Il-song Sends Message to Finnish President**

*SK0512094293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0821  
GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 5 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings today to Finnish President Mauno Koivisto on the occasion of the independence day of the country.

President Kim Il-song in his message wished the president and people of Finland success in the work for the prosperity of the country.

**Foreigners Said To Praise Country's Architecture**

*SK0212151493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504  
GMT 2 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 2 (KCNA)—Foreigners lavished praises on Korea's architecture.

Deputy National Political Commissar of the Secretariat of the National Resistance Movement of Uganda

Jotham Tumwesigye said the West Sea Barrage, the May Day stadium, Pyongyang metro and other excellent edifices are grand monuments which could be built only by the Korean people under the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. Korea's grand monuments constitute the highest reach of modern architecture, he added.

Nelson Humberto Ortiz Rea, director general of the Ecuadorian TV Station "Tele Andina 23", said the Arch of Triumph, the Mansudae Assembly Hall, the Mansudae Art Theatre, the Grand People's Study House and other wonderful edifice leave deep impressions upon the people. Such peculiar architectural buildings cannot be seen in any other countries of the world, he said, and went on:

Now, Pyongyang has become widely known as a world's first-class capital and a heroic city which has wrought miracles unknown in the world history of construction thanks to the energetic guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who, upholding the far-reaching plan of construction of the capital city of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song, is devoting his all to carry it into practice.

K.P. Silva, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka, said dwelling houses built in wonderful streets including Kwangbok and Tongil Streets are a symbol of the great idea and traits of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and a crystallization of his love for the people.

As they have the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and are guided by the chuche idea, the Korean people became a heroic people who have worked wonders which would shine for centuries, he said.

#### Foreigners Praise 'Chuche' as Scientific

*SK0312151493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505  
GMT 3 Dec 93*

[“Chuche Idea is Scientific Revolutionary Doctrine”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 3 (KCNA)—Foreigners visiting Korea praised the chuche idea as the most scientific, just idea.

Mohammed Rutpur Rahman, a member of the Bangladesh Self-Reliance Research Academy, said the chuche idea is a man-centred world outlook and a scientific revolutionary doctrine which gives overall answers to all the questions in transforming nature and society.

When the imperialists are intensifying anti-socialist moves more maliciously than before, taking advantage of the situation in which socialism has suffered setbacks and capitalism has revived in East European countries, Korea is defending and advancing the socialist cause

without any wavering, he said, adding that the secret of it lies in having applied the chuche idea in all fields of the socialist construction.

Prof. and Dr. Luis Beltran Lepeto of Alcala University, Spain, said the greatness of the chuche idea lies in that it gives the unique idea on the attributes of man, independence, creativity and consciousness.

Majid Shadoud, director of the high Institute of Political Science in Syria, said the chuche idea indicates the most correct way for mankind to realise their ideal.

The great amazing leaps made by Korea which had once been eclipsed on the world map are attributable to the chuche idea which the Korean people have taken as their guideline in the revolution and construction, he noted.

Prof. Jose Cecena at the National Autonomous University of Mexico said it is only the chuche idea that indicates the road ahead of mankind.

The chuche idea clearly shows the way to defend independence of man and build an independent new society, he said, and added:

This great idea has been further developed and enriched by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

#### Peruvian Party Leader Supports Socialism

*SK0312151193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500  
GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 3 (KCNA)—Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Socialist Revolutionary Party of Peru, addressing the meeting held to celebrate the 17th founding anniversary of the party on November 25, called for maintaining the principle of socialism.

He said that the imperialists and right-wing reactionaries are scheming to eradicate socialism, an ideal society of mankind, but in vain.

The number of the parties that signed the Pyongyang declaration, aspiring after socialism, is increasing with each passing day, he noted, and added:

The Socialist Revolutionary Party of Peru will continue to maintain the principle of socialism with the pride of signing the declaration and further develop the relations with the Workers' Party of Korea in order to defend socialism of Korea, the bulwark of socialism.

#### WPK Sends Message to Ecuadoran Communist Leader

*SK0412123593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047  
GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] December 2 sent a message of greetings to Rene Mauge

Mosquera upon his reelection as general secretary at the 12th congress of the Communist Party of Ecuador.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two parties would continue to develop favorably in the future in the common struggle for independence against imperialism and for socialism, the message wished him great success in his responsible work to implement the decisions of the 12th congress of the party.

### Information Delegation Returns From Indonesia

SK0512134093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 2 Dec 93

[Text] A delegation of the DPRK Information Committee headed by its chairman Kim Ki-yong returned home from Indonesia on 2 December by train. At the Pyongyang Railroad Station, the delegation was greeted by Song Pong-sun, vice chairman of the DPRK Information Committee, and R. Muhamed Muharam Sumadi-praja, ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to our country.

### Participants at 'Frontrakers' Meeting Praised

SK0412044193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—A state commendation ceremony for participants in the national meeting of frontrakers in beautiful communist virtues was held in Pyongyang on December 3.

Present were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president, Kye Ung-tae, Politburo member and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and Kim Chung-nin, Kim Ki-nam and Kim Kuk-tae, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee.

After decrees of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK were read, the title of DPRK labour hero was awarded to 10 participants, citations of the great leader President Kim Il-song to 34, citations of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to 60, the order of the national flag first class to 102, the order of labour to 654, the order of the national flag second class to 2,576 and the order of the national flag third class to 1,487, who had made a great contribution to bringing the advantages of the Korean-style socialism into full play, remaining unfailingly loyal to the leadership of the party.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

The speakers said that Comrade Kim Chong-il called the national meeting of frontrakers in beautiful communist virtues, the first of its kind in Korea, saw to it that a congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee was sent to it and took care that they were commended by the state, highly praising their communistic deeds.

They resolved to work more substantially for making the loyalty to the party and the leader their faith, conscience, morality and an inseparable part of their life and firmly prepare themselves into true loyal subjects and devoted sons and daughters who trust and follow only the great leader and the dear leader under whatever circumstances and uphold the guidance of the party and the leader with filial piety and singlehearted mind.

### Editorial Comments on 'Frontrakers' Meeting

SK0412120393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—Papers here today call on the entire party members and other working people to bring beautiful communist traits into full play and exalt Korean-style socialism centred on the masses in response to the noble intention of the party and the leader.

NODONG SINMUN in an editorial describes the recent national meeting of frontrakers in beautiful communist traits as a historic meeting which powerfully demonstrated to the world the superiority of the chuche-based collectivist outlook on life to the bourgeois outlook on life regarding personal ease and dissipation of individuals as the goal of life and the absolute superiority of Korean-style socialism to the capitalist system under which the jungle law holds sway.

The editorial says:

The entire party members and other working people must thoroughly carry into practice our party's policy of communist remoulding of people and its idea of establishing beautiful communist traits.

They must deeply cherish loyalty to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as their faith, obligation and morality and uphold the party and the leader with their pure and clean conscience.

They must firmly establish a noble collectivist outlook on life in compliance with the intrinsic demand of socialist society based on collectivism and fully prepare themselves to be true communist revolutionaries devotedly working for the party and the revolution, society and the collective.

Today the imperialists and reactionaries are widely spreading the fin-de-siecle bourgeois ethics and morality with a view to undermining the people's faith in socialism and communist ethics and morality.

The entire party members and other working people must resolutely reject any capitalist way of life degenerating people and prevent it from infiltrating into our ranks, deeply cherishing the great pride and honour of living and making revolution in the socialist motherland of chuche where the noblest beautiful communist traits are in full bloom.

**Paper Urges 'Singlehearted Unity' Around Leader**  
**SK0412110793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003**  
**GMT 4 Dec 93**

[“Singlehearted Unity Around the Leader Is Kernel of WPK’s Revolutionary Traditions”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—What is the kernel of the revolutionary traditions of a party—this is the basic factor defining their might and viability. Singlehearted unity around the leader is the kernel of the revolutionary traditions of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK).

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a by-lined article today.

This is because the singlehearted unity around the leader played a decisive role in setting the beginning of the Korean revolution.

The Korean revolution was pioneered and developed by the strength of singlehearted unity of the revolutionary units around the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle for defeating the villainous Japanese imperialists armed to the teeth and winning national liberation was an arduous struggle which had to break through a grim test at each step.

Without the singlehearted unity of our revolutionary units, the Korean revolution would have been frustrated at its dawn and the Korean people would have not achieved the sovereignty of the nation any time.

The singlehearted unity around the leader is the kernel of the WPK’s revolutionary traditions also because it is the basic foundation of all the contents of the traditions.

The revolutionary traditions of the WPK established in the period of the anti-Japanese struggle are made up of the ideological system of chuche, revolutionary feats, the experience in the struggle, the revolutionary work method and popular style of work.

The great leader has further developed and enriched the revolutionary traditions, overcoming all the difficulties with the might of the driving force of revolution united in one mind.

Today the tradition of singlehearted unity established in the years of the anti-Japanese struggle has been fully inherited and developed in our country in holding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

The Korean people fully entrust all their destiny to the dear leader, regarding him as their mental support. They remain loyal and devoted to his idea and leadership, singing the song “no motherland without you.” This clearly shows that the tradition of singlehearted unity achieved in the flames of the anti-Japanese struggle is being invariably carried forward.

**Creation of Dramas With Diverse Themes Noted**  
**SK0212115893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048**  
**GMT 2 Dec 93**

[Text] Pyongyang, December 2 (KCNA)—The television novel studio of the Korean Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee is creating many dramas of diverse themes.

Typical of them are serial TV dramas “The Kaema Plateau”, “Women”, “My Dear Lathe Operator” and “My Daughter”.

The serial TV drama “The Kaema Plateau” (16 parts) is based on a full-length novel of the same title by famous writer Hwang Kon.

Against the background of the period from the post-liberation days to the temporary strategic retreat during the fatherland liberation war, the drama successfully represents the worthy life and struggle of the peasants in the northern highland who became the masters of the land with the liberation.

Through the heroic struggle of heroes and heroines, the work well shows how precious the people’s power is and how this power won at the cost of blood must be defended.

The four-part drama “Women” is a work of the war theme which depicts the struggle of women in the rear in the wartime.

Other dramas are based on the advantages of the Korean-style socialism and on the ideological preparedness of people to defend it to the end. Among them are “People Controlling Fire” (17 parts) which portrays the workers of the Hwanghae iron and steel complex who became the masters of the country after the liberation and reconstructed furnaces totally destroyed by the Japanese imperialists, thus rendering active services to the building of a new Korea, “My Dear Lathe Operator” (four parts) recounting a story about an ordinary worker who becomes a talented poet and “Careers of Two Men” (10 parts) based on the struggle of a leading official of a complex.

Besides, many serial dramas have been created including dramas depicting the struggle of lumberjacks to introduce the cyclic felling method and communistic virtues which have come into full bloom under the socialist system.

**Yongsong Machine Bureau Fulfills Yearly Plan**  
**SK0412213093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503**  
**GMT 4 Dec 93**

[Text] Pyongyang, December 4 (KCNA)—The Yongsong general machine bureau which plays a big role in the development of the machine-building industry and the production of ordered equipment in Korea has fulfilled its yearly plan at 101.1 percent one month ahead of the set time.

In this period, the bureau manufactured a large pipe three-roll machine, a 1,600-ton hydraulic press and ordered equipment for coal and ore mines, power stations and other enterprises.

The Yongsong machine plant, a mother factory, carried out its yearly plan at 111.4 percent as of November 30. In the past the plant turned out the first 8-metre turning lathe with ordinary lathes in a matter of five months and produced 3,000-tonne, 6,000-tonne and 10,000-tonne presses and other large machines, thus winning the fame of "a powerful enterprise".

### South Korea

#### U.S., North Hold 'Closed-Door' Contact 3 Dec

SK0312231693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
2205 GMT 3 Dec 93

[YONHAP report from Washington]

[Text] The United States and North Korea held a closed-door working-level contact in New York on 3 December, U.S. time. It has been learned that North Korea delivered its official position to the U.S. side on its plans to resolve the nuclear issue.

On the same day, the U.S. State Department announced that it had received North Korea's response through the New York contact. It, however, declined to provide details on the specific contents of the contact.

The contact was made between Hubbard, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and Ho Chong, North Korean deputy chief to the United Nations, according to diplomatic sources in Washington.

### Further Details on Contact

SK0412061793 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean  
4 Dec 93 p 1

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Chin Chang-ho]

[Text] An official from the North Korean UN mission met with U.S. State Department officials at the UN Headquarters in New York at 1000 on 3 December and conveyed the official North Korean position regarding permission for the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to inspect part of North Korea's nuclear sites. This is North Korea's affirmative response [as published] to the 24 November U.S. demand that North Korea allow nuclear inspections in the first place, as agreed upon by the ROK and the United States in their Washington summit. This affirmative response of North Korea could represent a significant step forward toward resolving the North Korean nuclear issue.

The unofficial North Korea-U.S. contact on 3 December was attended by Thomas Hubbard, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs;

Kenneth Quinones, official in charge of North Korean affairs of the State Department; and Ho Chong, deputy head of North Korea's UN mission. The contact lasted about two hours. THE WASHINGTON POST reports that the U.S.-North Korean contact in New York was a very positive one and that significant progress was made regarding the IAEA inspection and the nuclear inspection monitoring cameras installed in the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon. The paper reports that a U.S. official said that further discussions with the North Korean side are necessary as to the specific points.

The paper reports that the U.S. State Department officials proposed that President Bill Clinton and the IAEA closely discuss the North Korean proposal contained in the 3 December response.

The paper reports that the U.S. officials said that a more specific review ought to be made as to the technical matters connected with the appropriateness of the new inspection and that the United States will discuss the overall situation with the ROK before it sends an official reply to North Korea.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Shelley, in a routine briefing on that day, said that an unofficial contact was made between the United States and North Korea based on the latter's 2 December request for a contact in New York. She added that the U.S. Government will first discuss the response with its allies before it makes a decision on the next step toward North Korea.

It has been learned that the U.S. State Department's decision on the next step means the resumption of the New York contact next week.

The ROK Embassy in Washington hinted that although the North Korean response in the North Korea-U.S. contact was far short of U.S. expectations, it was not totally pessimistic.

### DPRK 'Willing' To Accept Inspectors

SK0412122593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1221 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Washington, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—North Korea expressed its intention to accept routine inspection of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) but did not clarify its position on resumption of inter-Korean talks, diplomatic sources here said on Saturday. They said North Korean officials told U.S. officials at their talks in New York that it is willing to receive an IAEA inspection team in Pyongyang.

The United States judged that modest progress has been made but is going to continue its talks with North Korea for the time being to further discuss the limits and procedure of the IAEA inspection in North Korea.

Tom Hubbard, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, and Ho Chong, deputy chief of the North Korean mission to the United Nations, met in New York on Friday for approximately two hours.

Sources said that North Korea showed relatively flexible attitude at the talks and expected that the United States is likely to study diplomatic solution rather than sanctions for the time being because North Korea expressed its intention to accept the IAEA inspection.

### **U.S. Official on 'Slight Progress'**

*SK0412024193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0220 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Washington, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—There was slight progress in the effort to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue at an unofficial working-level contact between the United States and North Korea in New York on Friday [3 December], the White House said.

On CNN television, however, an official in New Mexico with U.S. President Bill Clinton said that North Korea has yet to agree to international inspections of its nuclear facilities.

There was slight progress and the U.S. Administration was carefully reviewing the position laid down by North Korea, he told CNN.

Asked if Pyongyang had agreed to international inspections of suspected nuclear facilities, he said there was no conclusive suggestion as to the question.

The two-hour contact was between Thomas Hubbard, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Asia and Pacific Affairs, and Ho Chong, deputy chief of the North Korean mission to the United Nations.

A diplomatic source in Washington said North Korea's reaction needs careful review as it contains both affirmative and negative aspects.

"The North Korean reaction indicates this is no time we can go directly into a U.N. sanction," the source said. "It appears the dialogue between the United States and North Korea would go on for the time being."

State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly, meanwhile, said the United States was carefully reviewing the North Korean reaction. She said Washington would consult with its allies before it takes next steps.

Pyongyang proposed Friday's contact immediately after Hans Blix, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), disclosed the IAEA's official stand on the North Korean question, Shelly said.

She said the goal of U.S. policy is to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue diplomatically. Washington believes diplomatic efforts will bring the best resolution, but time for a settlement is running short.

If North Korea is judged to be taking no necessary measures, proper action will be taken in consultation with the IAEA, the United Nations and U.S. allies, she said.

Details of North Korea's position in the New York contact were not immediately known.

It was learned, however, Washington notified Pyongyang of its firm position that if the continuity of nuclear safeguards is shattered, there is no way but for the United Nations to impose sanctions.

### **U.S. Said Discussing Response to DPRK**

*SK0612015393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Washington, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—The White House holds a top government officials meeting Monday to discuss U.S. responses to the latest North Korean proposal for outside inspection of its nuclear facilities.

"We're in the midst of studying this (proposal) very carefully," Vice President Al Gore said. "We'll have more discussions among ourselves tomorrow (Monday) about it."

Gore, speaking on NBC's "Meet The Press" program, said Sunday that the United States is also in the process of consulting with its allies, principally South Korea and Japan. It was not immediately known, however, whether U.S. President Bill Clinton will attend the meeting.

But Robert Gallucci, assistant secretary of state for political and military affairs, said in an interview with the Cable News Network (CNN) that once Clinton reaches a conclusion on the problem the U.S. Government will consult with South Korea and Japan before mapping out its direction.

In its latest proposal, North Korea said it will accept inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on five of the seven nuclear facilities in Yongbyon.

As for the two other facilities, a five-megawatt reactor and a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant, it will allow the replacement of surveillance equipment, according to informed sources.

Since North Korea did not accept inspections of those two facilities, which have been the main targets of international suspicion, "there is some distance between the North Korean proposal and the demands of the United States, South Korea and the IAEA," one source said.

It is difficult to predict whether the White House will accept the North Korean proposal because the hawks and doves are still vying for the upper hand within the Clinton administration, the source said, requesting anonymity.

Noting that the North Korean proposal has some positive aspects in it, the source said the United States is expected to urge North Korea to come out in a more positive manner in one or two working-level contacts.

"For the time being, we will be on the stage of negotiations rather than taking the steps to refer the question to the United Nations for sanctions," he said.

There will be a working-level U.S.-North Korean contact in New York as early as this week following coordination between the United States and South Korea, he said.

Vice President Gore discounted the possibility of a second Korean war breaking out because of a North Korean refusal for outside inspection of its nuclear facilities.

"I think that's mostly unlikely, and I think that it's very likely that the world will find a way to deal with this problem," he said. Gore was quick to add that North Korea should not misunderstand or underestimate the resolve of the world community.

Asked if the United States has China's cooperation if U.N. economic sanctions are to be imposed against North Korea, Gore sidestepped the question.

"It is premature to make a shift in our approach right now," he said.

#### **U.S. Said Planning 'Ultimatum' to Pyongyang**

*SK0312131393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
1200 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[By correspondent Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] It was learned that if North Korea does not accept overall inspection [chonmyon sachal] by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], the United States will send an ultimatum to North Korea that the United States will not hold the third round of U.S.-DPRK high-level talks.

A well-informed source of the IAEA said that a U.S. representative will make a speech on North Korea's nuclear issue at the IAEA Board of Governor's meeting on 3 December and urge North Korea to accept overall inspection and stated that the third round of U.S.-DPRK high-level talks will not be carried out if North Korea does not respond to the IAEA's demand.

This source also said that the U.S. representative will reveal a strong position on the North saying that it will be inevitable to seek ways for sanctions by referring North Korea's nuclear issue to the UN Security Council if North Korea does not accept or delays overall inspection by the IAEA.

This source continued that since such a position of the United States on North Korea will be in the form of an ultimatum to the North, which is not accepting IAEA overall inspection, it will be desirable for North Korea to accept overall inspection if it is to hold the third round of U.S.-DPRK high-level talks to improve relations with the United States.

This source revealed that the U.S. representative will urge early implementation of the mutual inspection between South and North Korea for the denuclearization policy of the Korean peninsula. It is analyzed that the U.S. position of holding the third round of U.S.-DPRK talks after North Korea accepts overall inspection complies with the method to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue that was officially elucidated during the 23 November ROK-U.S. summit talks.

The IAEA will discuss North Korea's nuclear inspection issue late this evening, ROK time, and the IAEA Board of Governor's meeting will issue a statement that is expected to urge North Korea to actively cooperate with the IAEA.

#### **Daily Says U.S. To Refuse North's Proposal**

*SK0612050293 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean  
6 Dec 93 p 1*

[By Chin Chang-uk from Washington]

[Text] It has been learned that the U.S. Government will soon hold a meeting at the White House to study measures concerning North Korea's response delivered on 3 December regarding the inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, and has established a policy to refuse the North's proposal and present a new proposal.

It is known to be a growing possibility that the U.S. Government will make the "negative conclusion" because the dominating opinion is that although the North's proposal delivered through the nonofficial contact in New York shows partial progress, the North's condition of accepting limited inspection [chehanjok sachal] on its nuclear facilities is not acceptable.

It is anticipated that the U.S. Government will eventually notify North Korea of the refusal and repeat its demand for the inspection of two undeclared facilities, which North Korea is obstinately refusing.

According to a U.S. Government source on 6 December, it is known that the message will be conveyed to North Korea during the contact in New York on 6 or 7 December, after approval by President Bill Clinton.

The source says the U.S. new proposal suggests that if North Korea accepts inspection of two undeclared facilities, the date for the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks may be confirmed.

#### **Foreign Minister on 3 Dec U.S.-North Contact**

*SK0412033993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—The results of Friday's [3 December] North Korea-U.S. contact were insufficient but worth looking at, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Saturday in Seoul's optimistic response to a meeting that officials described as having "substance."

Asked his initial response to the contact, Han said the results were "insufficient. But we do need to examine them."

Tom Hubbard, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, and Ho Chong, deputy chief of the North Korean mission to the United Nations, met in New York for approximately two hours.

Kim Sam-hun, ambassador in charge of nuclear issues, refused to say what was discussed in the New York meeting but described it as both positive and unfulfilling.

"Seoul and Washington will need to examine what went on at Friday's meeting. Any decision has to wait until after the full review," Kim said.

The meeting was Pyongyang's first official response to a contact Nov. 24, where Washington explained the results of a summit a day earlier between Seoul and Washington.

Washington reiterated two demands before the next high-level dialogue with Pyongyang—that North Korea allow continued safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and talk with South Korea on denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Despite reports of nearing a deadline on the issue, Foreign Ministry officials strongly indicated that the mood in Seoul and Washington is that the choice is still for dialogue.

"We have said all along that we will try to solve the problem through dialogue. This effort will continue as long as they have a chance," Kim said.

Seoul officials refused to say which of the two demands made progress, but a White House spokesman said North Korea did not give any clear indications on accepting international nuclear inspections.

North Korea has been telling the IAEA that it will allow only a change of films and batteries in inspection cameras, but inside sources said it has been more flexible on the inspection scope in contacts with the United States.

Pyongyang and Washington may hold further contacts after the South Korean and U.S. Governments examine the results of the New York meeting, Kim said.

#### **Response 'Not Fully Satisfactory'**

*SK041211193 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
1010 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[By reporter Yi Kang-tok]

[Text] It is the ROK Government's first assessment that the North Korean position expressed at the 3 December U.S.-North Korean working-level contact had a positive side but was unsatisfactory. The government said it would be able to announce its official position on the North Korean response early next week after fully

reviewing which part of it is positive and which part is unsatisfactory. Accordingly, the government will likely hold a policy meeting with the United States in the near future in order to decide a position of the ROK and the United States on the North Korean proposal.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said today that the North Korean response was not fully satisfactory [chung-bun hajinun anchiman] but it is necessary to review it.

In his supplementary explanation on the North Korean position, Nuclear Ambassador Kim Sam-hun said that North Korea's position was insufficient to meet preconditions [chonje chogon], thus hinting that North Korea did not fully accept our side's demands as preconditions—North Korea's acceptance of ordinary inspections [tongsang sachal] and the South-North envoy exchange.

Ambassador Kim said, however, that the ROK and the United States aim at continuing to make efforts to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue through dialogue and that they will take countermeasures [teung pangan] after modulating [choyul] both sides' positions. By saying so, he implied that several more contacts between the United States and North Korea may be held in the future.

#### **Government To Study 'Closely' North's Position**

*SK0412025993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
0230 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] The government thinks that the North Korean position conveyed to the U.S. side through the U.S.-North Korea working-level contact held yesterday has positive aspects, but it leaves a lot to be desired. Therefore, the government will closely study it through political coordination between the ROK and the United States before the ROK and the United States convey their position to North Korea, it has been learned today.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu today said that, although the North Korean reaction is not satisfactory, it needs to be studied.

#### **Papers React To DPRK Proposal on Nuclear Issue**

*SK0512123293*

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular daily newspapers on 5 Dec carry editorials on North Korea's new "official position" on nuclear inspections reportedly expressed to the U.S. Government during the recent U.S.-DPRK contact.

The liberal TONG-A ILBO carries on page 3 a 1,300-word editorial entitled "Our Advice to North Korea." Criticizing that North Korea is using a "double-dealing yardstick" toward South Korea and the United States, the editorial says that North Korea shows "a relatively progressive attitude" in negotiations with the United

States while showing a "retreat" in North-South dialogue, and adds that with such a double-dealing yardstick, the "comprehensive solution" to problems will be difficult.

The paper then urges North Korea to "realize" that the ROK-U.S. "cooperative system" is "much closer" than North Korea thinks, meaning that U.S. policy on North Korea will not be decided "unilaterally" nor "without discussion with the ROK." The editorial stresses that North Korea should pay keen attention to the "roles" shared between the ROK and the United States in resolving its nuclear issue and that expecting success in negotiations with the United States by "ignoring South Korea's position" is "unrealistic" and a "waste of time." The editorial then advises North Korea not to "underestimate" the ROK's position, stressing that even if support for the light-water moderated reactor is settled with the United States, the "practical support" would be provided by South Korea. The editorial also advises that North Korea should know that the "decision" on the Team Spirit exercise will also "be made" by the ROK, and that this issue will be "naturally resolved" when North Korea actively comes to "the exchange of special envoys" and takes an "affirmative act" for implementing the "joint declaration" for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The editorial warns that North Korea should not demand "too many things" because South Korean public opinion will not "tolerate" them.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 a 1,200-word editorial entitled "North Korea's Cunning 'Nuclear Racket'." Referring to North Korea's "new position" on solving the nuclear issue, the editorial says that although the details are unknown, the North Korean response "clearly contains an affirmative side" for negotiations. The editorial describes that the North's "dragging on time" was prompted by its "internal situation," noting hardliners and moderators within its "political system" have been "confronted" over the nuclear issue, and stresses that with the North's expression of its position, a "clue" to negotiation is found and "intensive efforts" should be made for solving the nuclear problem under the "ROK-U.S. cooperative system." The editorial notes that North Korea is attempting to "alienate" the ROK and the United States by "taking advantage of the nuclear issue" and to create "weak points" in the ROK-U.S. military security system. Recalling the North's "hit-and-run strategy" in past negotiations, the editorial calls on the United States "not to be dragged in" by North Korea.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO publishes on page 3 a 1,200-word editorial entitled "Comprehension of the Nuclear Issue." Pointing to "confusion" at home and abroad concerning the direction of the North Korean nuclear issue, the editorial urges that the ROK should "clearly grasp" the nature of U.S.-North Korea contacts and their "negotiation strategies." Explaining the details of these strategies, the editorial points out that even if North Korea seeks "negotiation diplomacy" for "partial settlement" with the United States, the possibility of the

North's "practical negotiation" with South Korea, except for "propaganda diplomacy," is very "slim" at present.

The leftist-leaning daily HANGYORE SINMUN carries on page 3 a 1,300-word editorial entitled "A Road Opened Again for Negotiation on the North Korean Nuclear Issue." Pointing to "some progress in North Korea-U.S. negotiations" as announced by the ROK and U.S. Governments, the editorial says the announcement gives people "expectations for a solution to the North Korean nuclear issue sooner or later." Iterating the conditions demanded by the two sides in the past including the U.S. strategy on "appeasement" and "threat," the editorial says that whenever the United States made "threatening acts and remarks" against North Korea, the people had a "sense of unrest" because such "threat" would aggravate "tension" on the Korean peninsula and North Korea would make an "unpredictable act." The editorial stresses that in view of Washington's comment that there are some "affirmative sides" to North Korea's "new proposal," U.S.-DPRK negotiations will be continued. The editorial says that it is now the United States' turn to put forward an "affirmative" proposal corresponding to the North's affirmative position, and stresses that if the United States "ignores" the North's affirmative proposal and "adheres to" the past policy, U.S.-DPRK negotiations can "hardly" be realized. Paying keen attention to what proposal the United States will put forward in the future, the editorial stresses that prior to making such a proposal, the U.S. Government "should closely discuss it" with the ROK Government.

#### IAEA Holds Board of Governor's Meeting

##### Minister's Remarks Noted

SK0412063193 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Dec 93 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu yesterday indicated that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will not decide to refer the North Korean nuclear matter to the U.N. Security Council during its board meeting in Vienna Thursday and Friday. Meeting reporters, Han said Seoul and Washington will, for the time being, wait to see if Pyongyang takes the initiative in accepting IAEA's inspections before they seek forceful measures against the communist country such as sanctions by the United Nations.

He said North Korea has not officially responded since it was briefed by the United States Nov. 24 in New York on the agreement on its nuclear issue between the South Korean and U.S. heads of state in Washington Nov. 23. The agreement is reported to include offers for a "broad and thorough" settlement of the nuclear matter.

Minister Han said he does not regard as an official replay a North Korean Foreign Ministry statement made Nov.

30. He said no behind-the-scene contacts have been made between the United States and North Korea after Nov. 24.

How North Korea reacts to the latest U.S. offer is critical, as the IAEA will decide whether the North Korean issue will be brought to the U.N. Security Council again based on it, the minister said.

Han said the United States will no longer be able to give much time to North Korea because domestic and international opinion is calling for a tougher stance against Pyongyang.

"There is no specific deadline yet. But this does not mean there is no deadline," he said.

Several West European countries as well as some hard liners both in Washington and Seoul are voicing the necessity of a tougher stance against the communist country, he said.

Behind this view is an assumption that North Korea is gaining something by delaying the settlement of the nuclear issue, he said.

"But I think the benefits that North Korea can get by delaying the issue are not that great. And the delaying tactic of the North Koreans does not always bring us losses. Rather, by dragging it out, North Korea is losing more than we are," the minister said.

Han said Pyongyang again proposed to the Vienna-based agency Wednesday that the IAEA inspectors can enter the country for servicing the monitoring equipment installed on its nuclear facilities.

"From this and other signs, I expect the communist country to react positively soon," he said.

The IAEA, however, repeated refused the North Korean proposals for a limited access to its nuclear facilities for changing films and batteries of the monitoring facilities.

Instead, it demands full-scale inspections on all reported facilities.

### **U.S. Official Speaks**

*SK0312233893 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
2202 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[By correspondent Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] It is likely that, if North Korea does not accept overall inspections [chonmyon sachal] by February, when the next International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Board of Governors's meeting is slated, the UN Security Council will seek ways to impose sanctions against North Korea.

A U.S. representative, at a speech made before an IAEA Board of Governors meeting, said that if North Korea does not accept overall inspection by the IAEA, the third round of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks cannot be

held. Thus, the United States reaffirmed the ROK-U.S. plans for resolving North Korea's nuclear issue as announced at the recent summit.

The U.S. representative stressed that if continuity of nuclear inspections is not maintained, as a result of the failure to conduct the necessary inspections on North Korea, the United States cannot but refer the North Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council for additional sanctions. He continued, saying that he will call on the IAEA director-general to make a report on North Korea's implementation of nuclear safeguards obligation to the UN Security Council at an appropriate date. Thus, he strongly hinted at the intention of seeking the UN Security Council's sanctions on North Korea's nuclear issue by convening a special meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors before the regular one slated for next February, if North Korea continues to show a negative stance.

The ROK and French representatives also stated that if North Korea does not cooperate with the IAEA immediately, the IAEA should seek ways to impose sanctions against North Korea by convening a special IAEA Board of Governors meeting.

### **Board Agrees on Need for Action**

*SK0412021193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Vienna, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors adjourned its meeting Friday after it had agreed on the need for urgent action to help resolve the North Korean nuclear issue. Unless Pyongyang takes positive measures, including the acceptance of IAEA inspections of its nuclear facilities, the North Korean nuclear issue will cease to be a subject of negotiations but a target of action by the international community.

During Friday's session, the United States and France expressed grave concern over the possibility of the use of nuclear materials by North Korea for the development of weapons. They said their countries will have to take strong follow-up measures, including reference of the issue back to the United Nations Security Council.

Nelson Sieverling, U.S. [IAEA] governor, said that if North Korea does not accept IAEA inspection at an early date, there would not be a third round of high-level U.S.-North Korean talks. The United States will have no choice but to refer the issue to the U.N. Security Council, he said.

Sieverling made the remark after expressing grave concern over a report by IAEA Director-general Hans Blix that the IAEA could not give a "meaningful assurance" to the governors that North Korea was using nuclear materials only for peaceful purposes.

The United States would not only continue its negotiations with North Korea but also have to refer the

question to the U.N. Security Council if IAEA inspections are not taking place in North Korea and continuity of nuclear safeguards is maintained, he said. But the situation has not yet reached the point where it could not be turned around, Sieverling said, urging North Korea to accept the IAEA's routine inspections as soon as possible.

The French Governor urged the IAEA to convene another Board of Governors meeting before its regularly scheduled one next year to work out countermeasures if there is no progress in the issue.

It is necessary, he said, for the international community to take strong action including sanctions against North Korea by referring the question to the U.N. Security Council.

The governor from Switzerland criticized the North Korean argument of "special circumstances" and urged Pyongyang to immediately and completely implement its nuclear safeguards agreement.

Governors of other countries also shared their opinion that time was running out on North Korea for the resolution of its nuclear issue and all criticized Pyongyang in firm and unprecedented tones.

Against these remarks, North Korea's ambassador to Vienna, Yun Ho-chin, repeated his country's old rhetoric that the issue had been raised by "some officials of the IAEA Secretariat" and that it was controlled behind-the-scenes by the United States.

Therefore, he said, responsibility in the North Korean nuclear issue rests entirely on the IAEA and the United States.

The nuclear question would be automatically solved once the United States and North Korea worked out the so-called package deal aimed at improving bilateral relations, he said.

Continuity in nuclear safeguards in North Korea or any damage in the IAEA's surveillance mechanism also rested with the IAEA because the IAEA had refused to conduct inspections, Yun said.

Ronald Walker, chairman of the Board of Governors, in summary, stated the board's complete support for handling of the question by the IAEA Secretariat and the director-general.

While urging North Korea to accept IAEA inspections, Walker expressed concern over proliferation in North Korea's non-compliance of nuclear safeguards. North Korea's refusal to accept IAEA inspections has to be regarded as a challenge to the entire nuclear non-proliferation regime, he added.

Walker asked Blix to report the Board of Governors' position to the United Nations.

**UN Chief To Visit North for Talks With Leader**  
**SK0612015893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT**  
**6 Dec 93**

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali is preparing to visit North Korea for talks with President Kim Il-song toward the end of this month, a Japanese newspaper reported on Monday. The MAINICHI SHIMBUN quoted a source in the United Nations as saying that Butrus Butrus-Ghali plans to visit South Korea and Japan in the middle of December and then consult both the United States and North Korea on making a trip to Pyongyang.

It is being watched what kind of role Butrus Butrus-Ghali plays in solving the North Korean nuclear problem, which has been left up to negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang, the daily said.

The United States has said that it will suspend its high-level talks with North Korea and study U.N. sanctions unless Pyongyang accepts International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections, but the United Nations could not play an active role so far.

The MAINICHI quoted a U.N. source as saying that the purpose of Butrus Butrus-Ghali's visit would be to prepare for sanctions against North Korea, and he expected Butrus Butrus-Ghali to personally seek a solution before the U.N. Security Council considers sanctions.

Meanwhile, the paper said, Pyongyang has decided that accepting a visit from Butrus Butrus-Ghali would be good for its negotiations with the United States.

**U.S., ROK Stance on DPRK Issue Examined**  
**SK0412103093**

[Editorial Report] Local vernacular dailies on 4 December carry editorials commenting on the stance of the United States and the ROK in coping with the North Korean nuclear issue.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO carries on page 3 a 900-word editorial entitled, "Well-Preparedness Is the Measure To Bring North Korea to the Conference Table." The editorial begins by noting that "there are hawks and doves in the United States over the measures to cope with the North Korean nuclear issue." The editorial then notes "the Clinton administration has shifted toward a moderate policy placing greater weight on the carrot." The editorial then states, "Regardless of whether their assertions are hawkish or dovish, we have to take keen interest in their assertions if they are concerned with the military situation on the Korean peninsula. Our attention is drawn to the recent report that the United States is studying the possibility of building up the combat capability of the U.S. Forces in the ROK in case the North Korean nuclear issue takes a negative turn. Our attention is drawn to it because this is concerned with our capability of coping with the military

situation on the Korean peninsula." The editorial, noting the loosening of security awareness among some segments of ROK society, blames the government for downgrading the seriousness of the North Korean military strength and the military intention of the North Korean regime. The editorial then notes that if the North Korean response to the U.S. overture to North Korea following the ROK-U.S. summit turns out negative, the United States will probably have to refer the North Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council, which may well result in increased tension on the Korean peninsula, and this is why the United States is studying the possibility of building up the combat capability of the U.S. Forces in the ROK. The editorial concludes by stressing, "Well-preparedness is the best defensive measure to preserve peace and it is also an effective measure to induce the North Korean side to come to the negotiation table."

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO carries on page 3 a 900-word editorial entitled, "Time Has Now Run Out for the North's Nuclear Issue." The editorial notes recent reports that the United States is "considering a series of measures for reinforcement of ROK-based U.S. forces" as "a worst scenario" for settling the nuclear matter, quoting remarks by the director of the CIA and by the U.S. Department of Defense. The editorial analyzes, "The stern U.S. attitude shows the will to no longer drag on this issue to persuade North Korea although it is based on the U.S. position of making diplomatic efforts first."

The editorial mentions the 3 December unofficial contact between the United States and North Korea in New York and expects a "positive response" from North Korea, noting the high possibility that "unless North Korea gives a positive answer this time, the international community will put sanctions on it after discontinuing efforts for dialogue and persuasion." The editorial continues, "Under such a situation, all diplomatic results—including the establishment of a channel for direct dialogue with the Untied States—that North Korea has achieved by using the nuclear card would come to nothing, and unexpected tension would be created on the Korean peninsula." The editorial concludes by urging North Korea to "make a wise decision to prevent a disaster on the whole nation."

#### **U.S. Air Strike on DPRK Found 'Impossible'**

*SK0612011693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0108 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The United States has been studying the possibility of bombing North Korea's nuclear facilities and has concluded that it is impossible, a Japanese newspaper reported Monday in a dispatch from Washington.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN quoted a senior U.S. official as saying that attacking North Korea's nuclear facilities would be very difficult, although President Bill Clinton and Defense Secretary Les Aspin had said they

would not rule out military action against the communist country. The Pentagon has been looking into possible options, including a pre-emptive air strike, with the understanding that military action will be difficult if Pyongyang acquires nuclear weapons, the U.S. official said. But Washington came to the conclusion that it is impossible to destroy North Korea's nuclear facilities with missiles or bombs if they are moved underground, he said.

Bombardment of reactors or nuclear fuel storage sites was ruled out as it is most likely to result in a release of radioactivity, he said.

In addition, Washington had to consider the possibility of Pyongyang's retaliating and devastating South Korea, the MAINICHI observed.

Seoul is a strong opponent of an attack and, considering all of the odds, a military attack on North Korea's nuclear facilities is highly unlikely, the newspaper commented.

The Japanese daily noted there were calls for an air attack if the situation worsens from conservative U.S. congressmen and some military experts, but they lost ground with Washington's reaching this conclusion.

#### **Kim Chong-il 'Directed' Return of U.S. Remains**

*SK0412032493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[AP/YONHAP from Washington]

[Text] U.S. Department of Defense officials have said that North Korea, which has nearly no diplomatic means in the U.S.-North Korean negotiations over the nuclear issue, is trying to affect the U.S.-North Korean talks by touching a sensitive U.S. political issue, resuming the repatriation of U.S. soldiers' remains from the Korean war.

U.S. Department of Defense officials said that, after the ceremony repatriating 33 U.S. soldiers' remains in Panmunjom on 30 November, a North Korean officer said to U.S. officials that North Korea's Kim Chong-il directed North Korean officials to hand over more U.S. soldiers remains to the United States.

A source from the U.S. Forces Command in the ROK said that, as a humanitarian effort to ease tension on the Korean peninsula, Kim Chong-il personally made a decision to hand over more U.S. soldiers' remains. The source revealed that it has been notified by the North Korean side that 31 more remains will be handed over on 7 December.

In this connection, a U.S. Department of Defense official, well informed of the issue of repatriation of U.S. soldiers' remains, revealed that North Korea is preparing to repatriate approximately 130 remains in all, including 33 remains already handed over to the United States, before Christmas.

The official added that the approximately 130 U.S. soldiers' remains are all the remains that North Korea can hand over to the United States.

**Nation Urged To Prepare for North Provocation**  
*SK0512135693 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean  
3 Dec 93 p 3*

[Editorial: "We Must Thoroughly Prepare for the North's Possible Provocation."]

[Text] We used to be too much concerned about the possibility of North Korea's southward invasion in the past because of North Korea's warlike nature and the nightmare of the 25 June [1950] surprise attack by North Korea. But now, when the situation has not changed at all, how much are we concerned about it? I am afraid we have an attitude totally different from that which we had in the past. It seems that we do not worry and are swayed by vague, optimistic expectations out of such thoughts as "it is hardly possible..." and "it is not at all likely." I cannot help but worry about this attitude we have.

This is probably the result of the preceding authoritarian governments' abuse of the danger of North Korean southward invasion and the people's fear of war as a means of their rule. This reminds us of a story about a poor shepherd boy, who cried for help to villagers when he saw a wolf. In the story, villagers did not believe him because he had lied to them several times before by crying out in fun as if a wolf had appeared. I am afraid we have become like the villagers who do not believe they are under the dangerous situation in which it is highly possible that a wolf will really appear.

The United States seems to be more concerned about the possibility of North Korean provocation than us. There was a warning about North Korea's unusual moves, such as the military deployment at the front and the tonsure order for North Korean soldiers, and the NEWSWEEK reported the high possibility that if a war takes place, the North Korean Army will win. After determining that this prospect was too pessimistic, ROK and U.S. defense officials explained that the ROK Army is also strong and if it is aroused, North Korea would be defeated ignominiously.

We cannot help but pay attention to U.S. President Clinton's and CIA Director Woolsey's warning of the possibility of North Korea's provocation because it was made under these circumstances. Regarding the North Korean nuclear issue, CIA Director Woolsey warned of the possibility of a war posture by North Korea and stressed the need to prepare for it. President Clinton said that he is surely implementing his duty to prepare for the possibility of North Korean provocation. While mentioning the nuclear issue, President Clinton said that North Korea would ultimately accept nuclear inspections and that he would not overreact to North Korea's firm declaration that it was prepared even for war.

It seems that Clinton and Woolsey have different opinions, but we can see that both of them are concerned about and alerted against the possibility of a North Korean provocation. In their recent summit talks, the ROK and the United States demanded North Korea's acceptance of nuclear inspections and practical progress in South-North dialogue. North Korea is in reaction against this demand after declaring that it was prepared for war. It has been learned that the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which opened a meeting on 2 December, will declare North Korea as a country that failed to implement its duties under the nuclear safeguards accord. This indicates the referring of the issue to the United Nations Security Council [UNSC], which will be followed by sanctions.

The most dangerous and most critical moment has come. It is unlikely that North Korea will simply meet the preconditions we demanded. Referring the nuclear issue to the UNSC would be enough to increase tensions on the Korean peninsula. The rice market opening is a serious issue but, maybe, the nuclear issue is a more serious challenge to us. Maybe we are in a state of emergency, and we probably do not recognize this situation, in which we can absolutely not create political disputes over the rice issue or the budget bill. The people are urged to bring themselves to the maximum awareness of the nuclear issue and the possibility of North Korea's provocation and urged to thoroughly prepare for it.

**'Diplomat' Says North Giving Up Chuche Idea**  
*SK0412051293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
0430 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] A high-ranking Western diplomat in Japan today said that, in order to gradually open up North Korea, Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il have decided to promote a constant dialogue with the United States and hope to gradually give up [pogi] the chuche idea to coexist with other countries. The diplomat said that, considering that its first goal of bringing the United States into a dialogue has been realized, North Korea's supreme leadership has assumed a very relaxed position [nuguthan ipchang] and it has already made or is making an important state decision to throw away [porida] the chuche idea.

**Further on Issue of Opening Rice Market**

**Agriculture Minister Interviewed**  
*SK0412132393 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean  
4 Dec 93 p 3*

[Interview with Ho Sin-haeng, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, by correspondent Pak Ui-chun in Brussels; date not given]

[Text] [Pak Ui-chun] You were clearly notified of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT] side's position on the rice issue. What is our position?

[Ho Sin-haeng] Mexico, Canada, and Switzerland have been demanding that their countries be excepted from tariffication. Mexico and Switzerland have been rejected and no agreement has been reached regarding Canada. We will decide on this matter after discussing this issue with the main negotiating country, the United States.

[Pak] Did GATT promise that our country's rice will be exempted from tariffication if an agreement is reached with the United States?

[Ho] GATT promised that it will make efforts to reflect our view if an agreement is reached regarding this matter with the United States.

[Pak] What will happen if the United States recognizes that our country's rice be excepted from tariffication?

[Ho] One hundred and sixteen countries are participating in the multi-faceted Uruguay Round [UR] negotiations. Even though we are successful in the negotiations with the United States we must receive consent from the other countries as well.

[Pak] Do you think that tariffication of rice is inevitable?

[Ho] I do not want to make a hasty conclusion. I will continue to confirm views of the EC and GATT and ultimately negotiate with the United States. I will work so that our principle views can be carried through. I have no intention to give up our position.

[Pak] In only a few days the UR negotiations will be settled. Isn't it too late for the ROK delegation to come here and confirm GATT's view?

[Ho] Even if we do not realize a tariffication exception, it does not mean that we will go back to the starting point. You must recognize that we made utmost efforts to lead the negotiations to a favorable direction.

[Pak] Do you think that the rice issue will be resolved just because the minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries came here?

[Ho] The government has made much efforts during the past seven years. The government has been earnestly observing the movements taking place because the United States and the EC—the two main axis of the UR negotiations—have shown no compromises. However, the decisive turning point in the settlement of the UR negotiations was realized because the United States and Japan produced a formula on opening the rice market and because recently the United States and the EC reached an agreement in the agricultural field. Therefore, I believe the government probed into this matter at the most appropriate time.

[Pak] If our rice is not given an exception from tariffication, will making compromises in other fields such as the financial and service fields be withdrawn?

[Ho] I did not use the word relinquish. It is a matter to be decided upon after consulting with the negotiating team

on whether there will be an interest on our part regarding this matter in the negotiations with the United States.

[Pak] You said that you are prepared for other compromises to prevent the opening of the rice market. Is there any change in this position?

[Ho] No.

[Pak] What is a new alternative in the negotiations with the United States?

[Ho] It is difficult to say what our negotiating strategy is in advance because the United States is observing our moves.

[Pak] If the rice market is opened in the end how will you persuade the people?

[Ho] You cannot say that you failed just because you received 90 points out of a 100. It should rather be viewed as a victory. The people must recognize the government's efforts to defend the national interests.

#### Ambassador to Geneva Interviewed

*SK0412142793 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean  
4 Dec 93 p 5*

[Interview with Ho Sung, Ambassador to Geneva, by TONG-A ILBO correspondent Pang Hyong-nam in Geneva on 1 December on the ongoing Uruguay Round of the GATT negotiations]

[Excerpts] [Pang] Do you think the Uruguay Round [UR] negotiations will be concluded by the 15 December deadline which was set by Peter Sutherland, general secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT]?

[Ho] All the delegates to the negotiations, including me, believe they can be concluded by 15 December no matter what. Although many difficult problems including negotiations between the United States and EC still remain, all countries participating in the UR negotiations show the will to conclude the negotiations this time without fail.

[Pang] How do you think the negotiations on the ROK's rice market opening will be concluded?

[Ho] I am doing my best to protect the country's interests. I emphasize that each country has what is of unnumerical value to itself and that of the ROK is rice. [passage omitted]

We must think of the reason why we have participated in the UR talks for the past seven years. When world trade is expanded, domestic employment will be enlarged and our living conditions will be improved. The trade liberalization, however, must be promoted equally in all countries in the world [muyokchayuhwanun chonsegae kukka-e kongpyonghage chujindwaeya hamnida]. [passage omitted]

[Pang] Many people view that the ROK will finally make a concession in dealing with the rice issue.

[Ho] Our theory on the rice issue is correct. The United States has also recognized that the ROK position is more difficult than that of Japan. The problem lies, however, in the fact that the GATT negotiations are multilateral ones in which 116 countries are participating. In bilateral negotiations, it is possible to put off resolving difficult issues or to make a mutual concession properly to resolve them. In multilateral negotiations, however, it is impossible to do so. [passage omitted]

[Pang] Why was a deadline for conclusion of the UR talks suddenly set? And what pushed the UR talks into a final phase this year?

[Ho] Above the reason that seven years have passed, it is mainly because new GATT Secretary General Peter Sutherland is vigorously pushing ahead with the UR negotiations. Because his impulsive force and his faith in certain decided principles are great, he will observe the 15 December target date, without fail. [passage omitted]

[Pang] What is the most difficult problem you face while participating in the UR negotiations here?

[Ho] The rice issue is the most difficult. In most fields like the rice market, other countries request something from us, but we almost have nothing to request from others. Accordingly, we are lopsidedly defensive rather than offensive. [passage omitted]

### Delegation Tries To Win EC Help

SK0412013793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0121 GMT  
4 Dec 93

[Text] Brussels, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—A high-powered South Korean delegation that started last-ditch negotiations on the Uruguay Round [UR] agricultural sector Friday [3 December] with the European Community is discovering that the tide is against it from the beginning.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Ho Sin-haeng led the team in a meeting with EC Farm Commissioner Rene Steichen at the EC headquarters in Brussels before flying to Geneva to talk to top U.S. negotiators about Korea's sensitive attachment to rice.

They had hoped to win support for Korean rice policy from the EC, but what they actually received was a firm repetition of the non-exceptional tariffication rule of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and that Japan and Korea could not be given different treatment.

Japan has agreed to partial opening of its rice market with a six-year grace period on tariffication and minimum quota access.

Steichen made it clear that there could be no distinction between advanced and developing countries in negotiations and paid no heed to the argument that Korea must

be considered a developing country in the agricultural sector and granted special benefits.

The Korean officials explained that rice was a very sensitive political and cultural issue and Korea was different from Japan.

They went into details of how Korea's economic loss from rice imports would be double or even triple Japan's to win EC sympathy, but the uniform answer was that the global trade talks would not succeed if exceptions were allowed.

Ho told the EC commissioner that the Korean farming industry was 20 years behind Japan's and that market opening could cause fatal problems for Korean farmers.

To this, Steichen answered that tariffication would not take place immediately and did not mean complete opening and that it was up to Korea to formulate measures after accepting it.

The EC commissioner, briefing them on U.S.-EC negotiations the previous two days, told the Korean officials that the two major economies have wound up talks in principle and will sort out the details when they meet on Monday in Brussels.

After the EC meeting, the delegates took the afternoon flight to Geneva, where they will explain Korea's position to GATT officials and negotiators of GATT member countries.

They are due to meet with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on Tuesday, and by then the fate of Korea's rice market is likely to be determined.

The officials apparently hoped to gain specific information on overall progress of the negotiations and the U.S. position beforehand, but now expect an uphill struggle in negotiations in view of the EC stance.

"We had hoped to get information on the UR odds and soft spots of the United States in order to conclude the UR from the meeting with the EC commissioner, but instead heard the argument on the inevitability of the non-exceptional tariffication policy," a Korean delegate said.

An EC official said that Korea was too late as the UR negotiations are winding up and recalled that France was able to win considerable concessions from the United States by long and hard persuasion.

### Efforts To Ban Imports Feared To Fail

SK0512022893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Dec 93 p 2

[By staff reporter Kim Hye-won]

[Text] Despite the desperate determination of its members, the efforts of the high-powered Korean delegation led by Agriculture Minister Ho Sin-haeng to ban imported rice, it is feared, will fail in bearing satisfactory

fruits. Reports from Brussels say Ho and other Korean officials have been cold-shouldered when they appealed for generous treatment of the Korean rice market to European Community's agricultural commissioner Rene Steichen Friday.

The Ho-Steichen talks in Brussels were the first in a series of the 11th-hour negotiations that the delegation is to hold during its historic mission to keep the Korean rice market intact.

The Korean delegation was to meet with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy in Geneva Saturday and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor Tuesday in the same city. The talks with Kantor, in particular, will be a crucial for the fate of the domestic rice market. The Seoul government has no choice but to say yes or no after the meeting.

Seoul officials said Agriculture Minister Ho has been given the power to act "immediately and responsibly" in the negotiations with EC and U.S. officials and, therefore, is expected to conclude, in any direction, the issue of rice market opening before returning home later this week.

President Kim Yong-sam, who promised not to open the rice market at any cost during his presidential campaign last year, or his prime minister is then expected to report the decision to the nation through a statement. Many Koreans, however, already doubt the outcomes of the forthcoming meetings with the top U.S. trade officials despite the efforts of Korean diplomats to hurriedly arrange them.

The United States, No.1 agricultural producer in the world, has been much tougher than the EC on the matters related to agricultural market access. If the Washington officials also turn their back on the Koreans, Seoul has no choice but to compromise unless it decides to opt out of the global multilateral trading system.

Agriculture Minister Ho, shortly before leaving for Brussels Thursday, revealed a three-step strategy. The first is to oppose the opening, in any form, of the domestic rice market.

If this position is not accepted, Korea will offer a concession in non-agricultural sectors in return for a guarantee for exceptional treatment of Korean rice in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

When this alternative does not work, either, Ho said he will act in consultation with top officials in Seoul.

How much Ho will get from his negotiations with EC and U.S. officials may be partly up to his negotiation skills. But the agriculture minister should have understood that when he revealed his last compromise before trying the first two options, the two did not exist any more.

Moreover, many Seoul officials admit that the second option presented by Ho—a wider opening in non-agricultural sector in exchange for the closure of rice market—is not practical.

They say negotiations in different fields are done under different rules and principles. For example, they say the interest groups behind the negotiations on financial and service market opening are totally different from those behind the talks on rice market and therefore, their interests can never be harmonized.

The officials say that this offer can work when negotiations are over to what extent the Korean rice market will be opened. When Koreans rule out the possibility of even a partial opening, however, this strategy will fail.

This offer for a barter also raises a danger. Korea, without saving rice, may end up only with wider-than-necessary opening of non-agricultural fields.

Korean officials do not reveal what they will do when this offer is rejected, too. But the next step is not difficult to imagine—an offer for a partial and gradual opening with a grace period. The bottom line here is the result of the negotiations between the United States and Japan.

Japan has reportedly agreed to allow 4 to 8 percent minimum market access of imported rice to domestic market over the next six years before beginning tariffication of rice.

The draft by GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade), on other hand, suggests tariffication of all agricultural products over six years and gradual reduction of the tariff rates by 36 percent during the same period. But this period extends to 10 years and the rate is reduced to 24 percent for developing countries.

Even during the preparatory stage, all countries, both developed and developing, should allow 3-5 percent minimum market access to foreign goods.

Korea, which claims to be a developing country, must want a more lenient treatment than that for Japan.

A plausible speculation concerning the third and last card of Korea is that Korea may offer to spend the next 10 years without promises of minimum market access and levy tariffs on rice after the period. The problem, however, here is that the Korean delegation will never satisfy its people whatever it brings home.

Even when the officials return home after declaring to leave the GATT trade system because of the pressure concerning rice, they will this time become a target of criticisms from people working in non-agricultural sectors.

**Spokesman: No Agreement Yet**

*SK0612025693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—There has been no agreement reached in Korea-U.S. negotiations on rice market opening in Geneva on such essential issues as the tariffication grace period and minimum market access, Presidential Press Secretary Yi Kyong-chae said on Monday.

"We still have to negotiate with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on Tuesday and with U.S. Agricultural Secretary Mike Espy on Dec. 12," Yi said.

"So far, there has been no agreement on important parts related to rice market opening. We will make our best efforts to have our demands accepted."

Pressed to comment on whether President Kim Young-sam was to make a statement to the nation on the rice issue, the presidential spokesman, "Chongwadae [presidential office] has never considered such a statement and I'm not aware of it. There will be no statement until a final conclusion comes out from negotiations on the rice market."

He ruled out a cabinet reshuffle as "this is not a proper time to discuss a reshuffle."

**Maximum Grace Period Sought**

*SK0512085093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean  
0800 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Although the government will accept the principle of rice market opening, it will continue to strengthen its negotiation capacity so that a maximum grace period for market opening and the rate of minimum market approach be settled in a most favorable condition.

A high-ranking government official today said that the government has made utmost efforts to keep the rice market closed, including strengthening the negotiation capacity of each related office to the maximum. However, because of the basic principle of the Uruguay Round negotiation that recognizes no exceptions on any items of any country, the government must accept the tariffication of rice. This official said that the government will strive to settle the details of conditions, such as grace period for tariffication and the rate of minimum market approach, in an attempt to protect our farms to the maximum. In addition, the government is now working out government-level measures to help farmers.

He pointed out that the negotiations will be assumed soon to discuss the conditions of rice market opening. Therefore, now is a very important time. The government will make utmost efforts to make the negotiation conditions most favorable to us while maintaining close contact with our delegation on the spot.

**Delegation Gives Up Effort**

*SK0512023993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT  
5 Dec 93*

[Text] Geneva, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—The South Korean negotiating team led by Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Ho Sin-haeng, concluding the effort to shield the rice market is meaningless, has asked the home government to give a new directive for securing a maximum grace period for market opening.

Ho made the request after his one-and-a-half-hour meeting with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy here on Saturday afternoon in which he offered to make concessions if the U.S. Government suggests some formula in return for keeping the rice market closed. But Espy flatly refused the offer, saying there can be no exception in tariffication.

Accordingly, Minister Ho and his team concluded rice market opening is an unavoidable trend of world trade and decided to give up the effort to keep shut the rice market, while asking for new directive from the Seoul government.

Ho is to hold his second meeting with Secretary Espy on Sunday morning to renegotiate the rice market deal based on the new directive from Seoul.

Whether he will hold his third meeting with Espy in case their second meeting breaks down is not certain, but Ho will continue his contacts with U.S. Government officials until he meets U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on Tuesday.

**Lawmakers Depart for Geneva**

*SK0612022393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0157 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—Four lawmakers from agricultural constituencies left for Geneva on Monday to inform the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of their opposition to South Korea's rice market opening. Reps. Kim Yong-chin and Cho Sun-song of the Democratic Party (DP), Rep. Cho Il-hyon of the United People's Party and Independent Rep. Chong Tae-yong are scheduled to stay in Geneva until Dec. 10.

They will meet GATT Director-General Peter Sutherland, deliver a letter from DP Chairman Yi Ki-taek opposing rice market opening and make efforts to block market opening in collaboration with some Japanese lawmakers from rural districts.

"Rice market opening of South Korea is an important issue of our people which would cause the ruin of 6 million farmers," Yi says in his letter to Sutherland. "South Korea's 40 million people are firmly opposed to the market opening."

"We strongly appeal to you to make efforts in excluding South Korea from the list of those countries which should open rice market, considering the special situation of South Korea."

The lawmakers said in a statement before leaving that defending Korea's rice market to the last was of great importance given the pain of farmers and the situation of agriculture, which is on the verge of collapse. They urged the government to resist pressure for rice imports and defend the market.

### **Preparation for 'Partial Opening'**

*SK0412053793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0522 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—Painful it may be, but the South Korean Government has reportedly swallowed the bitter pill of reality as the seven-year-old Uruguay Round [UR] is finally wound up with its deadline just days away. Seoul is preparing for "partial opening" of its rice market.

High-level discussions Friday considered various approaches to handle the aftermath of partial opening.

President Kim Yong-sam is due to make a public statement on the "painful" decision and promise to minimize access, support farmers with various measures and restructure agriculture.

The government, which until now wore a brave face and declared "no foreign rice at any cost", has seen that the UR negotiations are near conclusion under the principle of non-exceptional tariffication and that its high-powered delegation in Geneva has little power to win sympathy.

In other words, it has recognized the stark reality that it can only follow the tide that has been set by the mightiest economic powers of the world.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and European Community Trade Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan reportedly have buried the hatchet by removing the biggest stumbling blocks of farm issues.

France, the loudest opponent of a UR farm pact, is now speaking positively of conclusion of the multilateral deal, and Japan has agreed to minimum access of rice imports.

The remaining task is to agree on some pending issues of the manufacturing, financial and service sectors, but they are unlikely to be hinder the ambitious accord to spur world growth this year.

On the agenda before the deadline are talks between the United States and EC on Monday next week, an EC summit on Dec. 10, and a trade negotiation committee (TNC) meeting on Dec. 15.

When representatives of the 116 member countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) announce the conclusion at the TNC meeting, the new

1993 trade accord will be born and Korea will have to spring the locks on its rice and all other markets.

If Korea does not like the final draft, its only option is to walk out of GATT, which experts say would virtually be suicide given Korea's heavy economic dependence on foreign markets.

The Geneva-based GATT said it will not allow any amendments to the draft, which faces passage by U.S. Congress on April 15 next year, after the pact is concluded Dec. 15, breaking Seoul's last hope to campaign against rice imports in bilateral negotiations with member countries.

In result, the fate of the Korean rice market is most likely to be determined on Monday or Tuesday next week.

The Korean delegates in Geneva begin a last tug-of-war on rice with Washington on Saturday and hold a series of talks with the EC, Japan and Canada to reach some kind of conclusion by Monday.

Seoul is expected to seek sympathy by pleading that Korea is the only divided nation on the globe and depends on rice income.

It is said to be quickly losing sympathy, however, as allies on farm tariffication—Japan, Canada and Switzerland—have all thrown in the towel.

With such being the reality, the government has turned its gaze and is moving fast to persuade the public that partial rice market opening is the only alternative to total isolation from the rest of the world.

It is expected to work toward at least getting better conditions than Japan to win sufficient time to prepare for rice imports.

It will present a specific blueprint on supporting farmers and restructuring the farming industry while developing ways to raise the competitiveness of Korean farm products.

### **Prime Minister on Opening Market**

*SK0412131593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1307 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Hwang In-song said on Saturday that the government will do its best in protecting farmers' income and life in case the government inevitably opens the rice market.

Hwang said in the interview with the CHOSON ILBO, a daily newspaper, "the government will stick to its policy of 'no foreign rice at any cost' at the Uruguay Round (UR) negotiations. But if it becomes impossible, the government will exert its best efforts in trying to protect farmers' income and life."

He said, "South Korea will make every effort to protect rice market but, even if it becomes impossible, the government will secure the best conditions for rice market opening."

If exports of industrial goods increase after the Uruguay Round negotiations concluded, the government will invest the fund obtained from the increase in exports in totally changing and restructuring agricultural society, he added.

South Korean Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Ho Sin-haeng is scheduled to meet with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor to hammer out their differences on the issue of South Korean rice market opening in Geneva, Switzerland.

#### Support to Farmers To Expand

*SK0412054993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT  
4 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—The government, apparently accepting the inevitability of rice imports, is drawing up support plans for Korean farmers to minimize their suffering.

Progress in the Uruguay Round talks makes it almost unavoidable for Korea to open its rice market, a senior government official said Saturday.

Steps under review include extra investment in structural improvement for rural areas, direct income compensation, and support for senile farmers and fishermen, the official said.

As these programs are hugely expensive, the government is looking for new sources of revenue and may raise the money with a new tax, he added.

The decisions will be made public together with the government's rice market policy on Tuesday [7 December] or Wednesday.

A government delegation in Geneva for talks has found demands of the United States and European Community so strong that Korea may have to accept conditional opening of its rice market, the official said.

#### Deputy Premier Takes Over Rice Talks

*SK0512030793 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean  
5 Dec 93 p 1*

[By reporter Sung In-pae]

[Text] Yi Kyong-sik, deputy prime minister and minister of the Economic Planning Board, said on 4 December, "I am assuming the entire responsibility as deputy prime minister for the ROK's ongoing rice negotiation."

In a meeting with reporters on that day he repeated this stressing, "I am exercising all the authority for the Uruguay Round negotiation, as head of the economic

team and as chairman of the External Cooperation Committee, and I assume total responsibility for it."

He made no mention of acceding to the principle of tariffication of rice, but admitted that the ROK has been cornered in the negotiation for the opening of rice market by using the figurative speech, "The bus does not wait for the last passenger to get on."

He added, "In implementing the real-name financial transaction system, I openly assumed the responsibility for it, as well, because I thought someone in the government should take the blame if it failed."

#### Minister Seeks U.S. Cooperation

*SK0612030293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0253 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu sought Washington's cooperation Monday for successful resolution of South Korea's rice market opening issue as the final bilateral talks approach in Geneva. Han met with U.S. Ambassador to Seoul James Laney at the Ministry and explained the domestic difficulties involved in opening the rice market, officials said.

The 30-minute talk came before Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Ho Sin-haeng, in Geneva as Korea's top negotiator, was to meet with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on Tuesday.

Ho held marathon talks with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy on getting most favorable conditions to gradually accepting rice imports—chiefly a longer grace period and lower market access.

Officials said the talks were progressing, but were far from easy.

Han asked Laney that the United States fully consider Seoul's position and reflect it as much as possible in the final decision, officials said.

#### Economic Ministers Urged To Cooperate

*SK0612065993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0623 GMT  
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik said Monday that rice market opening is not a problem solely for the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry and all economic ministries from the Finance, and the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministries to the Construction Ministry should cooperate in the difficult situation.

Yi, who is also economic planning minister, met in the morning with Finance Minister Hong Chae-hyung, Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Kim Chol-su, Construction Minister Ko Pyung-u, and Assistant Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister for Planning and Management Sin Ku-pum.

He asked them to make efforts to minimize the impact of rice market opening, and to complete readiness to take such follow-up measures to conclusion of the Uruguay Round [UR] negotiations as lowering of tariffs and non-tariff barriers.

Yi later briefed Kim Chong-pil, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, on the progress of the UR negotiations and government measures.

### Opposition Sets Up Committee

*SK0512024693 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Dec 93 p 2*

[Text] The main opposition Democratic Party (DP) yesterday set up an emergency committee to block the possible opening of the domestic rice market. After a ceremony inaugurating the committee at the party headquarters in Seoul, some 500 party members marched on the National Assembly complex, shouting slogans against foreign rice imports. The emergency committee headed by party Chairman Yi Ki-tae will make an all-out struggle to thwart any move by the government to open the rice market to foreign imports, a DP spokesman said.

"We will focus our efforts on appealing to all citizens to gather under the banner against rice market liberalization," he said.

Speaking at the ceremony, party leader Yi warned that the collapse of the domestic agricultural industry, which he said is an inevitable result of the rice market opening, would have a devastating effect on the whole national economy.

Yi also indicated that a strong struggle at home against rice imports would help strengthen the stance of the government negotiators engaging in the Uruguay Round of free trade talks and in bilateral talks with their U.S. counterparts.

In a statement adopted at the ceremony, the committee repeated the party call for a national referendum to decide on the opening of the domestic rice market.

### Parties Issue Statements

*SK0612070093 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 6 Dec 93 p 2*

[Text] The Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], and the Democratic Party [DP] issued statements separately on 5 December regarding the government's policy accepting the opening of the rice market.

Statement by DLP Spokesman Cho Yong-chik: We are in a situation in which it is difficult to ignore the cold international reality and keep the rice market any longer. It is important how we, in the future, wisely overcome the difficult task and actively comply with international trend.

Statement by DP Spokesman Pak Chi-won: It is clear that the government had deceived and lied to the people and the naive farmers. The DP, along with all the people, will do our utmost to oppose the opening of the rice market, and urge President Kim Yong-sam to give a clear answer to his declaration of not allowing the opening of the rice market.

### Tensions Between Parties Increase

*SK0612074893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0706 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The political climate plunged into a state of deep freeze Monday as the opposition launched an all-out attack on the government and ruling party for their "failure" to defend the nation's rice market against imports. The main opposition Democratic Party [DP], aided by angry farmers and civic groups, went on the offensive after it was widely reported that the government had no choice but to give in to foreign pressure to open the rice market.

Trying to make political hay out of the situation, the DP pressed demands for President Kim Yong-sam to apologize to the people for being unable to keep his campaign pledges to protect farmers and the rice market.

The DP was also trying to move the stage out of the National Assembly and into the streets, demanding a national referendum on whether the country should open its rice market.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], for its part, was at pains to find ways to wriggle out of the tight situation, but party insiders admitted that there were no ready-made answers.

What was worse, the situation created by the opening of the rice market comes at a time when relations between the ruling and opposition parties are already frozen over the DLP's attempt last week to railroad the national budget bill through the National Assembly.

"None other than the prime minister himself boasted that the government will block pressure to open the rice market," said one senior DLP lawmaker. "But what has happened now?"

"He should have frankly admitted that the government couldn't defend the market from the start," he added in a series of bitter remarks tinted with resentment against the administration. He is by no means alone. There are many among DLP lawmakers who insist that the government and its party have lost the people's trust because of the administration's inadequate, or even mistaken, policy on the rice issue.

"How long do we think we can sell our products to other countries while refusing to buy theirs?" Rep. No Sung-u of the DLP asked. "It is a matter of time we opened our rice market."

The ruling party has to reflect on its failure to face reality and work accordingly, he said.

As the reaction, especially from bitter and disappointed farmers, reached a crescendo, the ruling party appears to believe that the best way out at the moment is to work out a policy to minimize the fallout on the farmers.

The opposition party, meanwhile, tried to play up what it called "a moral failure" of the government, which it said had "deceived" the people until the last moment.

What they are most upset about, some DP members said, was the silence President Kim is maintaining over the matter. There have even been whispers exchanged among them of the possibility of launching a move to impeach the president.

When the bleak news on the hopelessness of the Korean delegation's efforts to defend the rice market reached Seoul on Sunday from Geneva, the DP convened an emergency meeting of the Supreme Council.

There, the DP leaders set up a two-pronged attack, one for an offensive against the government and the other for measures to aid farmers, party sources said.

They demanded that the government report on its negotiations on the rice issue to the National Assembly on Monday. They also asked President Kim to call a national referendum and resign if he loses. The opposition party has scheduled a large outdoor rally along with farmers organizations on Seoul railway station plaza Tuesday.

Rep. Pak Chi-won, the DP spokesman, said his party has no intention of linking the national budget bill with the rice market opening issue, at least "not yet." But he said the DP will continue to press the ruling party to agree to increases in quantity and prices of the state purchase of this year's rice. Unless this demand is met, he said, the DP will not let the plenary session take up the budget bill. The DP cannot make any concession on this issue because it also is a rice problem, Pak said.

There had been a slight indication of willingness to compromise on both sides after the DLP rammed the national budget bill and other pieces of legislations through their respective committees. But opposition lawmakers physically blocked them from being railroaded through the assembly in plenary session.

The situation hardened again after the rice market opening issue burst open on the political stage on Sunday.

#### Policy on 'Violent Rallies' Noted

SK0612051993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0509 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The government will apply the law if anti-rice market opening demonstrations and rallies become violent or go to extremes, it was

decided Monday in an emergency cabinet meeting presided over by Prime Minister Hwang In-song. It was also decided to prevent a rally by agricultural, civic and dissident organizations in front of Seoul railway station on Tuesday afternoon from becoming violent.

Hwang told the cabinet that the government should ensure that the rally is peaceful and deal with any violent demonstrations strictly according to the law.

The Uruguay Round negotiations on rice market opening are not completed, and dissidents and student activists are feared to stir up a sense of crisis or persecution among the participants and to instigate a violent demonstration, he added.

Home Minister Yi Hae-ku, Justice Minister Kim Tu-hui, Education Minister O Pyong-mun, Labor Minister Yi In-che and First State Minister for Political Affairs Kim Tok-yong were at the cabinet meeting.

#### Police Ordered 'To Go Easy'

SK0312021493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—The National Police Agency instructed policemen across the nation Friday to go easy on people protesting against rice imports, provided that they are peaceful.

As rice protests are directly related to the livelihood of the country's farmers, the police should avoid being over-defensive if they are not violent, the instruction said.

Arrests should be kept to a minimum and policemen should limit their actions to issuing warnings for breaches of the law.

Organizations planning protests regarding rice opening should be advised to report rallies beforehand and to keep demonstrations as peaceful as possible.

The police won't stand by and allow violence such as the burning of rice or attacks on government agencies, however, and will photograph such actions and arrest those involved.

Since Nov. 10, when opposition to rice market opening began to mount, some 15,000 farmers have attended 25 rallies across the nation.

Three people have been charged with illegal protesting and released.

#### Catholic Church Joins Protests

SK0312074893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0704 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—Politicians, farmers, clergymen, students and citizens from across the nation united on the stand Friday [3 December] that they will not tolerate even one grain of foreign rice in Korea.

Three opposition parties and representatives of 188 farmers' and civic organizations congregated in the headquarters of the federation of Korean trade unions in Yido to inaugurate a joint committee to initiate a protest against opening the market for rice and principal farm products.

They adopted a petition and a recommendation to the president that the Korean farming market stay closed.

The committee will begin a petition drive against rice imports and organize a nationwide campaign starting with a large rally at Seoul Station on Tuesday.

Democratic Party leader Yi Ki-tae, Yun Chung-sok, chairman of Chonnongyon (National Federation of Farmers), and Kim Tong-yol, chairman of Hannongyon (Korea Council of Farmers and Fishermen), and delegates from seven other organizations will jointly chair the committee while Chungang University Professor Kim Song-hun heads the executive body. Farmers and dissidents will take part as regional committee members.

On the other side of Seoul, Stephen Cardinal Kim Su-hwan attended a meeting of the Korean Association of Catholic Farmers at Myongdong Cathedral under the banner of "no foreign rice."

"We will use all our power and energy to stop rice imports," the head of the Roman Catholic Church in Korea told a news conference.

He accused the government of glossing over the rice issue just days before conclusion of the seven-year-old Uruguay Round negotiations and charged that its incompetence has deeply disappointed farmers.

The cardinal urged the government to spell out its policy on rice imports and proposed ways to use the opportunity to boost Korean agricultural development.

He said the association had decided to organize prayer meetings for Korea's farmers.

"We cannot block rice imports forever with the world trend toward internationalization and openness, but we should do our best for now," the Cardinal said.

He urged farmers not to lose hope but find an opportunity to develop themselves.

In Kwangju and South Cholla Province, farmers, councilors, clergymen, professors and students declared a joint struggle against rice imports.

They warned that they could use violence if the government does not guarantee a self-sufficient rice market.

#### **Students Protest at U.S. Embassy**

*SK0412075593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0745 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—More than 30 students held a surprise demonstration in front of the U.S.

Embassy in Seoul Saturday afternoon protesting against U.S. pressure for opening of South Korean rice market before being taken to the police.

Students of "the Association of Student Organizations in Seoul Universities" asked U.S. Ambassador to South Korea James Laney in their letter to stop putting pressure on South Korea for rice market opening and to make public the contention of Seoul-Washington negotiations on the market opening.

The letter to Laney said, "the United States is showing a negative attitude in transferring its industrial technology to South Korea on the pretext of its national law and security thereby protecting its interests while pressuring South Korea into agricultural market opening. That is a double attitude."

#### **25,000 Attend Peaceful Demonstration**

*SK0512085493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0803 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] A national rally of the members of an Agricultural Cooperative Association was held this afternoon at the Hangang Civilian Park in Youido, Seoul, and approximately 25,000 farmers attended there. Participants in today's rally stressed in a resolution and in a letter of appeal to President Kim Yong-sam that the government must not allow tariffication of rice, which is a lifeline of farmers, as well as minimum access to the opening of rice market.

After attending the rally, approximately 1,500 presidents of the local cooperatives of the Agricultural Cooperative Association have decided to launch all-night strikes at the main hall of the Agricultural Cooperative Association at Sosomun, Seoul and to send a visiting group of 18 persons to the GATT Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland to protest against the opening of rice market.

This is the first rally since the government has decided to open the rice market. In today's rally, however, there was no conflict between farmers and police.

#### **Protests Spread Across Nation**

*SK0612033893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0323 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—Protests against rice market opening continued across the nation Monday, and took on an anti-American tone on reports that the government has agreed to rice imports in negotiations with the United States in Geneva.

Professor Kim Song-hun of Chungang University, chairman of the Pan-National Emergency Measure Committee blocking imports of rice and other staple farm products, told a press conference at the National Assembly that his committee would hold a rally opposing rice market opening in front of Seoul railway station on Tuesday afternoon. He accused the U.S. Government of favoritism in negotiations on trade of

farm products, discriminating against Korea and in favor of Canada and European countries.

Some 20 members of the central federation of Korean young farmers and fishermen visited the U.S. Embassy to deliver a protest letter that demands the U.S. Government immediately lift pressure for rice market opening.

A Buddhist group opposing imports of rice and other staple farm products, headed by the Ven. Chisun, also handed a protest letter against rice market opening to the U.S. Embassy.

The Central Committee of the National Alliance for Democracy and National Unification, a combination of dissident organizations, met to discuss the rally slated for Tuesday afternoon in front of Seoul railway station.

Thirty-two agricultural college deans issued a joint statement opposing rice market opening at the close of a meeting at Korea University.

Some 1,400 farm cooperative heads staged a sit-in to protest rice market opening at the National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation on Sunday afternoon.

In South Cholla Province, farmers took to the streets in anti-rice market opening demonstrations in Kwangju, Haenam, Posong and Hwasun.

In North Kyongsang Province, agricultural and civic organizations and the opposition Democratic Party formed something called the Emergency Measure Committee against imports of rice and other staple farm products and launched a petition drive. The committee will organize demonstrations in Yongju, Ponghwa, Kyongsan and Uisong on Friday.

#### Expert Discusses Seoul's Options

SK0412095693 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Dec 93 p 8

[Text] Korea will be able to secure a better deal on rice market opening than Japan has if it can exploit the final phase of the Uruguay Round trade talks to its advantage, an expert said yesterday.

Song Kuk-che, research fellow of the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy [KIEP], said no country will now be able to deny favorable terms for a rice market opening Korea may obtain from negotiations with the United States.

With the Dec. 15 Uruguay Round deadline approaching, he said, members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade will be interested more in what the whole package will be like than in what concessions Korea will offer.

Korean Agriculture Minister Ho Sin-haeng is scheduled to meet with his U.S. counterpart Mike Espy in Geneva Saturday for last-minute negotiations on Korea's rice market opening.

Should Korea and the United States reach an accord before the Dec. 15 deadline, the accord is certain to be accepted by other GATT members.

Japan has reportedly agreed on a six-year partial opening of its domestic rice market with 4 percent minimum market access in the first year expanding to 8 percent in the last year.

Previously, the United States and the GATT had demanded Korea and Japan start to import rice at high tariff rates and gradually lower the rates. They also demanded that no barriers other than tariffs be imposed on rice imports.

Following the six-year period in which minimum market access, not high tariffs, will replace an import ban, Japan will reportedly have to start negotiations again.

Korean Agriculture Minister Ho is expected to demand both a longer period of minimum market access and a smaller actual access during the period when he meets with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Espy.

Should it fail to reach an accord with the United States, Korea would have either to accept the U.S. offer or to refuse it and negotiate separately with GATT members, which Song of the KIEP said would be too costly.

After the Uruguay Round is concluded, he said, Korea would find it difficult to secure a deal as good as that agreed on by Japan and the United States.

#### Papers on Rice Market Talks

SK0612065193

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports and editorials from Seoul vernacular newspapers published on 6 December on the government's negotiations on the rice market opening issue.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO in Korean on 6 December publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Post-Rice Market Opening." The editorial urges the ROK negotiators "to devote their utmost during the final stage of the negotiations to secure best conditions of the opening of the rice market."

Reporting that it is not the end of the world, the editorial urges the government and the people to join forces to overcome the pain and adversity. The editorial also warns that "the least desired at this point are defeatism, internal split, and imputation."

The moderate TONG-A ILBO in Korean on 6 December publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Tasks After the Opening of the Rice Market." The editorial denounces the government for wasting seven years by opposing the opening of the rice market without any strategies, only because it is a politically sensitive issue.

The editorial cites the most urgent task after the opening is "to obtain maximum advantages from the conditions

of the grace period and import volume." The editorial also asserts that it is not desirable to connect the financial, service, and intellectual property fields to the rice negotiation.

The editorial demands the government "to expedite the drawing of a blue print for compensating farmers' income loss, to enhance the competitiveness of domestic rice, to adjust the rural structure, and to absorb the labor of those who give up farming."

TONG-A ILBO on 6 December publishes on page 4 a 900-word article entitled "President Kim's Silence on the Rice Market Opening." The article notes that President Kim Yong-sam's last remarks on the rice issue was his 29 November National Assembly speech, in which he said: "The ruling and opposition parties should work together to discuss what is best for the nation."

The article continues to note Prime Minister Hwang In-song's remarks on 2 December that "the demand for opening the rice market cannot be accepted," and contradicting remarks two days later on 4 December that "if the opening of the rice market is inevitable, we will try to secure a longer grace period than Japan's."

The article reports that "President Kim may be asked to take the ultimate responsibility of the opening of the rice market," and that "he may also be condemned for stepping forward for applause, and disappearing at condemnations."

Noting the most serious issue at present is the government's honesty, the article concludes by questioning what the government has to say after continued silence and lies.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean on 6 December publishes on page 3 an 1,200-word editorial entitled "Who is Responsible for This?" The editorial reports the government tried to deceive the people, who are well aware of the country's external-oriented economic system and the importance of complying with the GATT, and is now blaming others, financial circles and the media, for interfering in the negotiations.

Comparing the thoughtful steps taken by Japan, the editorial asks the government, although belatedly, to demonstrate its leadership and crisis management ability.

The editorial urges the government to be alert and understand our position, be honest with the people, prevent disadvantages by not negotiating the rice issue with unrelated issues such as the opening of the financial market, and take the responsibility of not being honest and spoiling the great task of the nation: opening and internationalization.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean on 6 December publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Tasks After the Opening of the Rice Market." The editorial stresses that "the domestic industries need

to be restructured so that the benefits from the increased trade due to the settlement of the Uruguay Round is shifted to the agriculture sector."

The editorial ranks compensation as a short-term task and absorption of the farming population into non-farming areas as a long-term task. The editorial also stresses that the government has to make the most out of the grace period and adjust the rural structure.

### China To Accelerate Efforts To Export Rice

SK0612013793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0131 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Beijing, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—China is expected to step up its efforts to sell rice to South Korea and Japan as they have both virtually agreed to open their rice markets in the Uruguay Round world trade talks.

China, expecting South Korea and Japan to be forced to open their rice markets in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, has been developing new strains of rice that it hopes are to the taste of Korean and Japanese palates for some time, while sounding out the two governments on the possibility of importing Chinese rice through diplomatic channels, according to sources well versed in Chinese agriculture.

Strains of rice grown by ethnic Koreans in the northeastern Provinces of Jilin, Liaoning and Heilongjiang are the same as those grown in Korea and Japan, though they are much cheaper.

China's rice sells for 16,500 won an 80 kilogram sack in China, or about one-eighth of the price of similar rice in South Korea, the sources said.

Moreover, China is geographically much closer to Korea and Japan than such rice exporting countries as the United States and Australia, a strong point of China as a rice exporter to the two countries.

Vietnam and Thailand will also try to export their cheap rice, grown in two or three crops a year, to South Korea and Japan for use in processing as this Southeast Asian rice is not favored by Korean and Japanese consumers much for its different taste, the source said.

Meanwhile, Japan is promoting a plan to invest in rice farming in northeastern China to grow cheap high-quality rice in preparation for rice market opening.

### Livestock Group To Rally at GATT Meeting

SK0512034993 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English  
5 Dec 93 p 8

[By staff reporter Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] "Rice farming has long gone along with cattle breeding in Korean agriculture and vice versa. Cattle have been beasts of burden for unmechanized farming

and one major source of non-farming income. Therefore our beef market should be protected as well as our rice market."

So saying in a brief press meeting, Song Chan-won, chairman of the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation [NLCF] yesterday embarked on a "most pressing and demanding journey" to Geneva, Switzerland. He and his top deputies plan to boost the morale of Korean negotiators in the Uruguay Round [UR] of world trade talks and put beef, shunted to the sidelines of the country's negotiation strategy, back onto priority of import ban items. His four-member entourage will be joined by the second dispatch composed of the six chiefs of local cooperatives this week.

They will hold a rally in front of the GATT building Thursday separately and jointly with foreign farm leaders in a bid to highlight their demand for the exemption of agricultural and livestock products from uniform free trade regulations, originally designed for manufactured goods.

Some of their slogans prepared in Seoul read: No Exception, No Concession; Save Korean Beef; Don't Kill Korean Farmers; and For Whom the UR?

"We will remind the government delegation that one million livestock raisers stand behind them and encourage them to exert all-out efforts to win the negotiations for our farmers and stock breeders who are still in the level of family farmers," Song said. "The nation, fully focused on the rice issue, seems to ignore the significance of the livestock industry," he viewed, tacitly complaining of the administration's apparent shift of its comprehensive position to exclude 15 sensitive farm products from market opening.

In terms of contribution to farm income, livestock places second with over 20 percent. The unchallenged first ranker, rice, accounts for 40 percent of rural households' total earnings from farming.

When it comes to trade volume, however, beef has an enormous effect on the economy.

Korea began importing beef in 1976, stopped, resumed and stopped sporadically. It has opened the beef market again since 1988. Its imports totalled 132,000 tons last year, over 50 percent of total domestic demand. The volume totaled as much as 500 million dollars, making it a large trade item. Under a quota arranged between Korea and three exporting countries including the United States, it has to ship in 99,000 tons this year and increase the volume by 9 percent over the next two years.

"If beef imports are further liberalized, our market will be flooded," warned the representative of the NLCF, the largest organization of cattle, pig and poultry raisers.

Another leading producer society, the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation will also send a similar

mission to Geneva early this week amid already hot protests against international pressure to open the home farm market.

#### Ministry Denies Infiltration Into DPRK Waters

SK0612104993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1023 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The Ministry of National Defense on Monday denied as not true some foreign press reports that "a South Korean naval vessel intruded into the territorial waters of North Korea." A ministry official said no South Korean naval craft violated the sea extension of the Military Demarcation Line in the West Sea, though, he said, a naval speed boat provided a protective support to a fleet of fishing boats in the South Korean waters southeast of Paengryong-to island on Sunday.

#### Foreign Minister on Ties at Tokyo-Seoul Forum

OW0612035093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT  
6 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 KYODO—The South Korea-Japan forum began a two-day session on Monday [6 December] with South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu saying that the November Seoul-Tokyo summit provided a good opportunity for the two countries to establish a fresh relationship.

Han also expressed hope that the meeting will serve as a channel through which the national leaders can freely exchange opinions to enhance bilateral understanding. The meeting of leading intellectuals from the two countries, aimed at promoting mutual understanding, came into being as a result of an agreement between South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa at a summit held in early November.

The forum's agenda items include discussion of the changing political situation in South Korea and Japan and their diplomatic policies, South Korea and Japan as viewed within the framework of political and security relations in the Asia-Pacific, ways to increase Seoul-Tokyo exchanges, and prospective areas for future Seoul-Tokyo cooperation.

The South Korean delegation, headed by Pae Chae-sik, a professor at Seoul National University Law School, comprises 28 leaders, including Kim Yun-hwan, a National Assembly member of the ruling democratic liberal party, Sunkyong Group Chairman Choe Chong-hyon, and Science and Technology Minister Kim Si-chung.

Hisashi Owada, who once served as Japanese vice foreign minister, is heading the 27-member Japanese delegation.

**Government To Send Special Troops to Somalia**  
**SK0612090493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT**  
**6 Dec 93**

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea will send a platoon of special warfare troops to Somalia to provide protection for its engineering battalion serving in the United Nations peacekeeping operations [PKO], an informed source told YONHAP on Monday.

Protection for the engineers is currently being provided by Italian troops.

The dispatch of combatants, despite its being an effort to secure self-reliant defense of the Korean PKO unit, draws keen attention as it breaks the government's promise not to send any combat troops to the African country.

The combatants will be sent along with an advance party and the main contingent of 250 replacing soldiers, which are to be dispatched in late December and early next year, respectively, the source said.

They will be equipped with individual weapons, but not heavy weapons, he said.

All of the combat troops are volunteers and their training has already been completed.

**President Takes 'Hardline' Stance on Budget Bill**  
**SK0312082193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0759 GMT**  
**3 Dec 93**

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—As the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] was poised to ram the 1994 budget bill through the National Assembly, all attention was riveted on President Kim Yong-sam.

Kim, who has been advocating political reform for the internationalization of his country, maintains that Korea's lawmakers have to play by the law in order to establish law and order and become role models for the people.

Based on this philosophy, Kim is said to be of the firm opinion that railroading the budget bill through parliament is inevitable in view that its legal deadline passed at midnight Thursday [2 December].

Violent physical clashes occurred Thursday night between ruling and opposition lawmakers, who tried to block an attempt by the DLP to pass the bill at the Assembly's plenary session before the deadline.

Another slugfest loomed on the horizon as the ruling party said it would try it again Friday while the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] vowed to stop it.

The morning after Thursday night's clash at the National Assembly, which was widely reported on television and in newspapers, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle were being severely criticized by a disgusted general public.

"A Civilian Era, But It's Business As Usual at the National Assembly," one mass-circulation daily commented sarcastically in a headline. "A Railroading National Assembly!" screamed another.

Nevertheless, there is not the slightest sign of wavering in the presidential conviction that the national budget bill has to be cleared "in time," at any cost, sources at Chongwadae [presidential office] say.

Kim is said to have established a position that the political tactic of holding the budget bill "hostage" in a deal for something else is unacceptable.

Another reason for Chongwadae to take such a hardline position is that even if the ruling party agrees to postpone the passage of the budget bill, the opposition party will not try to work out a compromise on other issues, including its demands for a revision of the law on the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP].

The DP would only go on posing more problems just to hurt the image of the ruling party while holding the national budget bill hostage, the sources said.

Chongwadae believes that the National Assembly should no longer play games as in the old days, using the budget as a bargaining chip. This is the message Chongwadae wants to send unmistakably to the opposition party on this occasion, they said.

Of course, there are those among presidential aides in Chongwadae who counsel a softer line. But they are definitely in the minority, they said.

Meanwhile, speaker of the National Assembly Yi Mansop, who refused to preside over the plenary session Thursday night, anticipating the DLP's attempt to railroad the budget bill.

Yi said he is opposed in principle to any attempt by the majority party to ram a bill through, upsetting many of his fellow DLP lawmakers.

He was reported to have relented Friday morning and accepted a request from DLP floor leader Kim Yong-ku to preside over Friday's session and apologize to the people for the violence that took place Thursday night.

In any event, Chongwadae hopes to have the national budget bill cleared soon before passing the revised law on the NSP and other political legislation, including the election law, during the current regular session so that President Kim's political reform campaign can forward in earnest from early next year.

There had been reports that President Kim wants also to settle rice market opening and other pending issues this year and start his second year in office afresh with a major shuffle of senior officials in the ruling party and Prime Minister Hwang In-song's cabinet.

Whatever happens, Kim will not duck any issue but face it boldly and move forward one by one.

"That is the Kim Yong-sam style," one of his aide said.

### Kim Yong-sam on Competitiveness in Factory Visit

SK0312121493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1023 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Yong-in, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam visited the Kihung plant of Samsung Electronics Co. Friday noon, where he lunched together with factory workers.

Samsung Electronics won the 5-billion-dollar exports award at the recent "Export Day" ceremony. It is the first Korean industry ever to export more than 5 billion dollars in a year.

Thanking workers for their hard work, President Kim said during the lunch that workers and management should work together in a far-sighted vision to further build up international competitiveness.

"Increased competitiveness is needed all the more because inter-country trade competition is feared to grow fiercer as the trade and investment committee of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) aims to ease various trade barriers," Kim said.

Noting that signs have been seen of a full-fledged exports recovery in the past three months, the president said that if and when the same trend goes on, South Korea would be able to register a 1.5 billion dollar surplus in its international payments position this year.

### President Rejects Opposition's Summit Proposal

SK0312053693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0507 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam turned down Friday [3 December] opposition leader Yi Ki-tae's proposal for a government-opposition summit.

"This is not a time to hold a summit, and under the present circumstances a summit is not worth consideration," a ranking Chongwadae [presidential offices] official said.

The summit would be meaningless as the National Assembly Budget and Accounts and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Committees had passed the budget bill and the rice purchase plan, he said.

"It would have been meaningful if it had taken place before the two committees took the actions," he said.

The government party tried to push the budget bill through the National Assembly before the legal deadline

ran out at midnight Thursday, but was halted by the opposition party's physical blockade.

The assembly will pass it on Friday, he predicted.

After parliament passes the budget, the government party will talk with the opposition party about controversial bills amending the Agency for National Security Planning law and election laws.

"It is the basic position of the government and its party to pass these political reform bills during the current session of the National Assembly so that President Kim's political reform program may be legally supported," he said.

### Bank Predicts 6.3 Percent Growth in 1994

SK0312121593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT  
3 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—The Bank of Korea observed on Friday that South Korea's economy would grow 6.3 percent and register a current account surplus of about 500 million dollars next year.

On the negative side, consumers prices would surge higher than this year at about 6.1 percent and the unemployment rate would reach the 3-percent level, highest in seven years.

In an economic prospect, the Central Bank said that this year's GNP (gross national product) growth would end in 4.9 percent.

In the fourth quarter of this year, the GNP would expand 4.9 percent due chiefly to poor agricultural harvests. The third quarter growth was 6.5 percent.

The bank said that next year, however, the economy would recover steadily influenced by improving economic conditions both at home and abroad.

It noted that economic powers like the United States, Japan and West Germany would see their economy expand 2.2 percent on the average next year, which compares with the average 1.1 percent growth this year.

World trade expansion, too, would increase from 3 percent this year to 5 percent next year, it said.

The Central Bank predicted that the country's exports would reach 89 billion dollars and imports 90 billion dollars next year to result in a trade deficit of 1 billion dollars.

But, the international payments position would record a surplus of 2.4 billion dollars. Allowing 1.9 billion dollars' deficits in invisible trade and transfer account, current account would show a surplus of about 500 million dollars, it said.

**Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore****Malaysia****Mahathir: Keating Letter Not 'Conciliatory'**

*BK0312143593 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] Speaking in an interview with RTM [Radio Television Malaysia] in Langkawi today, Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said that his interpretation of the letter he received from Australian Premier Paul Keating is that it is not one that is offering an apology.

[Begin Mahathir recording] He wrote that the letter is a conciliatory [preceding word in English] statement and not an apology. But by the way the sentences were written, it did not sound like a conciliatory statement, so it is difficult for me to say that the letter is meant for conciliation. In the letter, Keating just explained the reason why he made the remarks about me when he was in Seattle. That's all. He also explained why he was not happy about my absence at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting. It seems that because I did not make any reply, he is of the opinion that I share a similar view with several cabinet ministers that have been criticizing Australia following the incident. I also feel rather disappointed over the Australian Foreign Ministry's denial about receiving any protest note from Malaysia. As far as I knew, the Wisma Putra [Malaysian Foreign Ministry] did send a protest note to Canberra. Somehow, the statement issued by the Australian Foreign Ministry denied that our side had launched a protest against Keating's remarks about me. [end recording]

**Says No Need for Reply**

*BK0412071493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0344 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Langkawi, Dec 4 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed said that he does not see the need for Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating to send a letter to him, which did not help to ease the strained relationship between Australia and Malaysia.

I don't understand the need for Keating to send the letter, which to me not in the least is an apology, which I did not ask...But the letter does not even appear conciliatory, he told reporters here.

Hence, I don't know what does it mean, he said when asked to comment on Keating's letter to him.

Dr Mahathir said he would not reply to the letter.

I don't know how to reply and if I were to reply it may prolong, he said.

It only explains why he (Keating) made such a statement in Seattle, that's all and why he felt unhappy with me.

Dr Mahathir said he had tried to avoid responding to questions posed to him, particularly on the issue but it appeared that by not replying to the questions it was interpreted that he agreed to the stand taken by several ministers who criticised Australia.

He was saddened that Keating had said that Australia's Foreign Ministry v. a., awaiting to receive protests, if any, from Malaysia. As far as I know, Wisma Putra (the Foreign Ministry) made a protest but he in [words indistinct] denied any protest from our side. This should not have happened as it is not true, he said in this resort island off the coast of the northeastern Kedah state.

Dr Mahathir said he did not blame the Australians but he did not understand why Australia's prime minister was angry with him over the statement on APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] becoming too big. What I meant was APEC becoming too big from membership aspect but from the aspect of consolidation with the setting of a formal secretariat and developing into a trade bloc, he said.

Dr Mahathir said, "My criticism was not over too many counts of joining APEC or agree that more should join APEC, the more the merrier as it is an organization for Pacific nations and so all Pacific countries should become members. That is my stand but it need not become a trading bloc. Making APEC a trading bloc with members such as the United States, Japan and so on, then it becomes a massive organization because it has too strong a crowd. This is what I disagree."

But apparently Australia is angered why we supported Chile's membership of APEC, it seems because of our support for Chile becoming a member, [words indistinct] have become massive. Not so, Chile is a small country.

Dr Mahathir said if anyone had any cause to be angry over his statement he felt it should be the United States and President Bill Clinton as he had directly criticized the United States efforts to use APEC as a tool.

I criticized and did not attend (the summit) although I was invited by President Clinton. If anyone should be angry with me it should be President Clinton but it looks that President Clinton is not that angry although he may have felt unhappy but he did not make any offensive statement against the people of Malaysia or against me, he said.

Dr Mahathir said President Clinton, Japan and other APEC member countries were not angry with his statement but Australia alone had taken offence over his comments on APEC becoming too big to the extent of passing remarks which were not meant to be offensive, [word indistinct] they cannot but be interpreted as being offensive. Intention alone will not suffice. If our intention is good but we utter bad words, people will only remember our words and not our intentions, he said.

Dr Mahathir also said he would explain if asked to do so by the press and ministers in Malaysia were entitled to

their comments and interpretations. I cannot stop my ministers from making comments. They are entitled to make comments or resort to any action. It is up to them, he said.

As to whether he agreed that government agencies take action against Australia, Dr Mahathir said he had (?issued) any directives in general to anyone but if anyone had taken such action, it is because they were annoyed. Probably to them it is proof of their support for me or it may be that they are angry. Anyway, it is their right, he said.

The prime minister however said if anyone accused him of agreeing to their actions just because he remained silent, it was a bad assumption which should not have been made.

On what action Australia should take to normalize relations with Malaysia, Dr Mahathir said to ease the situation, it's better not to reply, don't talk, don't do anything as it will only worsen the situation.

#### Ties 'Worse' After Keating Letter

BK0412102093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English  
0901 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia Saturday did not dismiss the likelihood of downgrading its relations with Australia, further worsened by the non-conciliatory letter sent by its Prime Minister Paul Keating to Dr. Mahathir Mohamed.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who said relations between Kuala Lumpur and Canberra took a turn for the worse after Keating's letter on Thursday, said: anything can happen from now on because calls by Malaysians for the government to take firm action against Australia is mounting.

The letter sent by Keating to Dr. Mahathir Mohamed does not come from a person who appears to be sorry and regrets what happened as a result of his own remarks which went beyond extreme.

Abdullah's observations were made in a four-paragraph statement, read to reporters at a press conference at the Foreign Ministry, which would be sent to the Australian High Commission here and Keating's office in Canberra.

Abdullah said: what disappoints us most is that his letter neither offers an apology nor shows any interest to be friendly. If that is the attitude of Keating, who is head of the Australian Government, how can the government and people of Malaysia accept that Australia truly desires to preserve good relations with Malaysia.

In his letter to Dr. Mahathir, Keating said he did not mean to offend him when responding to questions from the Australian media about his (Mahathir's) refusal to attend the recent informal meeting of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) heads of government in Seattle called by the United States.

Keating called Dr. Mahathir recalcitrant and said he was sick of answering questions about Dr. Mahathir.

The remarks angered not only politicians but Malaysians in general had called for Malaysia to sever diplomatic ties with Australia.

Abdullah said: in fact, when Wisma Putra [Foreign Ministry] earlier suggested to the Australian High Commission that Keating write to Dr. Mahathir to clear the murkiness which began to emerge in relations between Malaysia and Australia, [word indistinct] hoped Keating's letter would achieve what we want but unfortunately his letter had the reverse effect. As such, he added, the cabinet decision last Wednesday—that all ministries, government departments and agencies were free to review their cooperation with Australia—would stand.

Responding to questions, Abdullah said the cabinet would decide its next course of action against Australia when it meets next Wednesday.

Whatever develops between now and Wednesday will be considered by the cabinet before it makes any decision accordingly, he added.

He said it was up to Keating and the Australian Government to make new initiatives to mend the strained relations because, based on Dr. Mahathir's comments, Keating's letter was clearly unhelpful.

Dr. Mahathir Friday said Keating's letter to him was not an apology and not even conciliatory.

#### Australia Criticized for 'White Supremacy'

BK0512130293 Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA  
in Malay 27 Nov 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Paul Keating's White Supremacy"]

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans' speech to the Australian Parliament last night, which stressed Malaysia's important role in APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation], was an inadequate effort for reducing tension caused by the offensive remarks made by his boss, Paul Keating, against Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir. Such careless remarks require at least a public apology from the Australian prime minister himself. As long as he has not made a public apology, it is very hard for us to forgive him for the remarks he might have deliberately made.

In fact, Malaysia has for a long time adopted a patient attitude toward Australia, which has always benefited from the bilateral trade and never paid attention to our feelings in many cases.

Since the administration of Prime Minister Bob Hawke in the mid-1980's, Australia has committed many thoughtless actions regarding our country. These included the increase of tuition fees for foreign students in 1986 and their protests against the death penalty imposed on two of their nationals for drug trafficking here. Under Paul Keating, Australia

remains unchanged, but the strange thing is his initiative to turn his country closer to Asia after its alienation from European countries.

**Under Keating, Australia has tried hard to promote APEC to strengthen economic cooperation and bring benefits to the Asia-Pacific countries.**

At the same time, we can also see how Australia has worked hard to get the United States to play a leading role in APEC. The recent summit meeting in Seattle clearly showed that President Bill Clinton was the one leader that benefited most. The Seattle meeting indeed became an arena for Clinton's one-man show [three preceding words in English] with the world media being focussed on him.

It is therefore correct for our prime minister to have expressed concern over the fact that APEC would only benefit developed member countries through their influence and power. One thing that our prime minister did not mention was that the white supremacy [two preceding words in English] concept would also be introduced in Asia through APEC.

Therefore, when Dr. Mahathir initiated the East Asia Economic Caucus [EAEC] concept for Asian countries, Keating was offended and felt that his white supremacy concept in Asia through APEC would be threatened.

This is the real reason for Keating's anger every time the name Mahathir is mentioned. His displeasure was further intensified after Kuala Lumpur beat out Adelaide to host the next Commonwealth Games. The case of Raja Baharin [Malaysian national who abducted his own children from Australia] and other cases during the Bob Hawke era have also made things worse.

In view of all these events, it is therefore understandable for Malaysia to express its dissatisfaction for an action that may strain our bilateral relations with Australia.

If Malaysia decides to resort to trade sanctions, Australia will be the loser, because the annual trade balance is always in that country's favor, while Malaysia can still find other trade partners, such as New Zealand.

#### Broadcast Cooperation With Australia Suspended

*BK0512135193 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat says all types of broadcasting cooperation with Australia have been suspended, including the joint coverage of the 1998 Commonwealth Games. Speaking to reporters in Gelang Patah, Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said the annual purchase of broadcasting equipment worth millions of ringgit from Australia have also been cancelled.

The Information Ministry also suspended a plan for people in this country to receive Australian television broadcasts via satellite, the purchase of digital radio equipment, and cooperation in personnel training. RTM

[Radio Television Malaysia] believes that it is useless to hold further talks with Australia because they will not benefit the country. RTM will instead cooperate with other countries in purchasing broadcasting programs and sophisticated broadcasting equipment.

The minister disclosed this to reporters after he met with farmers in Gelang Patah. He added that Australia has to put up with any actions Malaysia will take as long as its Prime Minister Paul Keating refuses to apologize to Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir. If Keating is adamant, Malaysia will show its firm stand on the issue.

#### Policy Reviewed on Sending Students to Australia

*BK0512144993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Malaysia's Education Ministry is reviewing its policy on sending students to Australia in the light of the deepening controversy between the two countries. Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr. Fong Chan Onn said an in-depth study should be carried out. Speaking to newsmen, Datuk Dr. Fong said if the relations continue to be bad, they might affect the plan on sending students to Australia. The rift between the two countries becomes wider as Malaysian leaders and officials take offense at Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating's remarks in Seattle last month. Mr. Keating has refused to apologize for calling Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir recalcitrant when the Malaysian leader did not attend the informal meeting of leaders of APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation].

#### Cambodia

#### Sihanouk Withdraws Portfolio Offer to KR

*BK0312124593 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[“Unofficial translation” of a clarification issued by King Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing on 1 December—read by announcer]

[Text] International press has paid great significance to the event that the two prime ministers of the royal government have regarded as being against the Constitution. This refers to my suggestion to offer the posts of coministers, co-vice-ministers, and cosecretaries of state to Khmer Rouge [KR], leaders provided that Democratic Kampuchea agrees to fulfill the following conditions: A complete cease-fire; an immediate end to the destruction of the property of the state, nation, and people; and an immediate and unconditional surrender of Preah Vihear, Pailin, and other autonomous territories of the Khmer Rouge.

This clarification is aimed to emphasize the following:

If the current Constitution of Cambodia does not allow for the inclusion of persons who have not been elected by the people or persons who do not belong to political

parties represented in the parliament through popular elections, there is no need to amend the Constitution just because of my suggestion.

I withdraw this suggestion and propose that it be regarded as null and void as it is very important to avoid amending our Constitution because of this or that matter.

For our new regime to be credible, to inspire the confidence of all and to act as a guarantor of the stability of our state and nation now and in the future, it is essential not to even slightly modify our Constitution.

Our Constitution should serve as a strong and eternal (?soul) of our nation and people.

[Dated] Beijing, 1 December 1993  
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

**Coministers of Defense, Interior Appointed**

*BK0312145193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[“Order of the Royal Government of Cambodia”—read by announcer]

[Text] Having seen the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia,

having seen the royal decree of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, king of Cambodia, dated 1 November 1993 concerning the appointment of the Royal Government of Cambodia,

And in line with work requirements, the government orders:

Article 1: The Ministries of National Defense and Interior to prepare for their excellencies, the former personal advisers to His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, the positions of coministers of national defense and coministers of the interior and national security for those named below:

The Ministry of National Defense:

1. H.E. General Peng Pat; and
2. H.E. Gen. El Vansarat.

The Interior Ministry:

1. H.E. Gen. Long Sophat;
2. H.E. Gen. Thong Chan;
3. H.E. Gen. (?Phan Khin);
4. H.E. Gen. (?Khang Nem).

Article 2: The coministers in charge of the cabinet, coministers of defense and interiors, ministers, and the heads of the institutions concerned, as well as persons concerned must act on this order which takes effect from the day it is signed.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 30 November 1993

[Signed] for the Royal Government, First Prime Minister Samdech Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh; Second Prime Minister Hun Sen

**Hun Sen Receives UN Military Liaison Chief**

*BK0412063093 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0408 GMT 4 Dec 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh 4 Dec (AKP)—Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, received Bangladesh Colonel Muni Ruzzaman, chief of the UN military liaison unit, on 2 November.

Hun Sen welcomed the group of UN liaison officers to Cambodia, asking it to pay special attention to three points; that is, control over the activities of the Khmer Rouge group, the supply of foreign aid to the group, and border demarcations in the east and west of the country.

The prime minister also recounted military activities mounted by the Khmer Rouge on various localities in Kompong Thom Province while their leader, Mr. Khieu Samphan, was received in Beijing by His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

“The Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC] is duty-bound to defend the people’s security, and if there is no peaceful settlement, it will be necessary to put into practice Article 3 of the Constitution which stipulates that Cambodia is an indivisible state,” reaffirmed Mr. Hun Sen.

For his part, Mr. Muni Ruzzaman concurred in every point raised by the RGC and pledged to respect the Paris accord. He requested the RGC to create favorable conditions for his team during its mission in the country.

On the same day, the UN military liaison unit chief was also received by Prince Norodom Sirivut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

**Laos**

**Border Meeting Held With Thai Province**

*BK0512084093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] A consultative meeting held between Laos’ Savannakhet Province and Thailand’s Mukdahan Province to discuss border peace and order was closed on 1 December. The Lao side was headed by Saisomphon Phomvihan, governor of Savannakhet Province. Attending on the Thai side was Second Lieutenant Winai Bunyarakkarin, acting governor of Mukdahan Province, along with all his delegation members.

Following the meeting, the officials of the two provinces reached a mutual understanding and jointly signed a memorandum which stipulates measures to maintain peace and order along the Mekong river border areas,

suppress criminals, obstruct criminals' escape from criminal cases, and check illicit trading and sale of Lao labor to Thailand—the problems which have prevailed in the recent past. The two sides agreed to jointly make efforts to settle these problems.

### Vientiane Reception Fetes Thai King's Birthday

*BK0612131493 Vientiane KPL in English 0734 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Vientiane, December 6 (KPL)—Mr. Somphan Kokilanon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, and his wife, on December 3 night hosted here a reception in anticipation of the 66th birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand (December 5, 1993).

Attending the reception were Souban Salitthilat, deputy foreign minister of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic]; Boun-gnang Volachit, mayor of Vientiane Prefecture; ministers; Lao senior officials; and diplomatic corps and representatives of the international organisations in Laos.

### Japanese Friendship TV Station Handed Over

*BK0512124693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the 2 December national day and the 10th anniversary of the National Television Station, on the evening of 1 December, a ceremony was held by the Information and Culture Ministry at the Lao-Japanese Friendship Television Station in Vientiane capital to mark the handover of the Lao-Japanese Friendship Television Station. The ceremony was attended by Osakan Thammatheva, minister of information and culture, and Masao Wada, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], together with deputy ministers, technicians, and a number of cadres concerned.

At the ceremony Japanese Ambassador Masao Wada delivered a speech handing over the Lao-Japanese Friendship Television Station to the LPDR Government. This television station was built with aid rendered by the Japanese Government. The construction began on 9 May 1992 and was completed on 23 September 1993. The total cost of the construction was more than 100 million yen. It comprised two sectors—the construction of buildings and the installation of various machines and equipment in the buildings. This television station has now begun experimental broadcasting.

Minister Osakan Thammatheva later delivered a speech accepting the television station. He expressed gratitude to the Japanese Government for the support and assistance in building the television station and for the support and assistance in other fields for Laos.

Since its establishment, this television station has progressively expanded its activities. At the beginning, it broadcast only two days a week and only two hours per day. Now, it broadcasts programs everyday—four hours a day. The number of programs has also increased. There are now as many as 17 programs altogether. The station has planned to increase its broadcasting programs to meet the requirements of viewers. The technical service has been also improved in all respects. Many more devices of various types have been put to use in producing broadcasting programs. The transmission capability has increased from 1 kw at the beginning to 5 kw in the present. It has now transmitted the carrier signal within the radius of 70 km. [passage omitted]

### Lignite Exploration Completed in Sianghon-Hongsa

*BK0612133493 Vientiane KPL in English 0751 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] Vientiane, December 6 (KPL)—Lignite exploration in Sianghon-Hongsa special region has so far been completed on 21 sites, about 50-300 [meters] deep each. Among them, 14 coal was discovered in layers of 80-90 metre thick.

The lignite pits are at the area of Phou Faimai mountain and exploitation is expected to begin early next year. In the first year, its output is expected at 500,000 tons and afterwards 74 million tons over an area of 60 square kilometres.

The companies conducting the exploration of lignite in this area are Hongsa Lignite Company, Lao Agro-Forestry Development and Service Company.

## Philippines

### Government, Malaysia Form Group on Sabah Issue

*BK0612081493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 2 Dec 93 p 12*

[By Arnold E. Belleza]

[Text] A legal working group headed by the Department of Justice was formed yesterday to handle the legal aspects of the Sabah dispute, Malacanang yesterday said.

The Joint Executive-Legislative Advisory Council on Sabah, meeting for the third time yesterday, approved the creation of the working group and said proprietary claims would be included under the legal aspects to be studied.

The council noted "substantial progress" in Philippine-Malaysian relations and called for the continuance of strengthening economic and political ties despite the Sabah issue.

Improving bilateral relations, the council said, would include increased trade and investments, the formation

of a growth triangle with Indonesia, the situation of Filipinos in Malaysia, consular matters, and the management of goods and persons across the common border.

The joint Philippine-Malaysia commission, agreed upon during President Ramos' trip to Malaysia is scheduled to meet in Manila next week to discuss these and other measures, Malacanang said.

During President Ramos' meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed in January 1993, both agreed that relations would proceed normally despite the Sabah issue.

Mr. Ramos said a number of trade and investment missions have since been dispatched by Malaysia, with investment projects having been established in Subic and Mindanao.

Regular Cebu-Kota Kinabalu flights have commenced, and the private sectors of both countries are meeting in the framework of the growth triangle, Mr. Ramos disclosed.

### Ramos Discusses Navy Role in Regional Security

*BK0312091793 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English  
0230 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[“Excerpts” of speech by President Fidel Ramos during the commissioning ceremony of the 550 class logistics support vessel VRP Bacolod City on 3 December; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The Philippine Navy, along with other services of the Armed Forces, is undergoing a dramatic shift in priorities, just like the nation. Previously, the focus of our efforts has been largely concerned with the problems of insurgencies. Today, our internal security situation is much better than it has ever been in the past few decades as a result of our peace process and the success of our national reconciliation and development program. Now in the post-insurgency era, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] has more and more pride to look outward. We need the AFP, still, to protect and consolidate our gains and maintain political stability, but its main concern now gradually shifts to the defense of our borders and territory and the protection of our natural resources and environment.

We need the capable Navy to protect our sea lines of communication. The Navy must be capable of safeguarding, at the very least, the vital choke points into our archipelago. It must be a navy that can effectively patrol our territorial waters and protect our marine life, fishermen and fishery resources. It must be potent enough to detect and apprehend intruders. We need a navy whose ships are armed with modern detection and weapon systems.

It is true that the Cold War has ended and that we now enjoy unprecedented peace in our part of the world. Yet it would be folly to think that threats to peace and stability no longer exist. Racial and ethnic rivalries are

still there and some of them have already developed into violent and deadly military confrontations, and we are equally aware that the specter of a nuclear holocaust continues to hang all over the world. In our region, the Korean Peninsula presents a flash point, and closer to home, the Spratlys in the South China Sea remain the subject of overlapping claims. We cannot risk to see our region become an arena of war. We have too many things to do at a piece and this must be accomplished in an atmosphere of peace. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

We have strengthened our ties with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations or ASEAN. And as a member of ASEAN we continuously urge that disputes within our association be settled peacefully. We have successfully battled for the inclusion of a security dimension in ASEAN's political and economic dialogues culminating in the ASEAN regional forum.

We have exerted great efforts to reach out to Japan, China and Korea, and we have become a full member of the Nonaligned Movement. At the same time, we are also aware that the maintenance of regional peace requires the balancing of the power equation among the countries in the region. And in this regard, we have called on the United States to continue with the policy of engagement and commitment in Asia and the Pacific, so that our region can remain stable and secure. Our country is part of the network of security arrangements that the United States maintains in the region under the Philippines-United States Mutual Defense Treaty of 1951. Thus, we support the development of the high degree of inter-operability among the forces that comprise these security arrangements. Inter-operability means closer coordination and similarity in military training and doctrine. It necessitates familiarity with each other's systems and equipment, as well as compatible policies. And so it is from this perspective that this commissioning gains added significance. This LSV [logistic support vessel] was acquired through our Military Assistance Agreement, now in its final phases with the United States. I extend our people's appreciation to the United States of America for augmenting, through this VRP Bacolod City, the naval assets of our Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

### Ramos Discusses Officials With Private Armies

*BK0212100393 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English  
0230 GMT 2 Dec 93*

[Text] President Ramos said yesterday that government officials who continue to maintain private armies will be tried in court and purged as he lauded the success of Oplan Paglalansag [Operation Dismantling]. The chief executive said the next step will be to reform the culture that breeds private armies and for the people to take the initiative in helping dismantle these armed groups. As Paglalansag draws to a close, I have observed that while

we have gained much from this campaign since mid-July, much is still needed to be done, quote unquote, President Ramos said.

Rafael Alunan III, interior and local government secretary, said that as a result of the campaign, including the massive propaganda and advertisement in all forms of media, people have come forward to reveal the existence of private armed groups. This will be a continual campaign, quote unquote, Alunan said. Ito ay isang problema ng kultura, this is a problem of culture, quote unquote.

President Ramos said that since the start of the campaign, 461 private armed groups have been dismantled and 22,629 loose firearms have been recovered. This represents the biggest haul from any operation after martial law, quote unquote, the president said. He said that the 1,369 people were arrested for illegal possession of firearms and 776 cases were filed in court as a result of Oplan Paglalansag. The number of index crime decreased by 11.6 percent during the third quarter of the year, compared to the first two quarters, Mr. Ramos added. Even so, the public continues to report abuses and crimes committed against lives and property; private armed groups of all kinds continue to remain in existence, quote unquote, President Ramos said. [sentence as heard] You fulfill the need to make the society more peaceful and stable, the chief executive said. Quote, the drive against political and business warlords, drug traffickers, gambling lords, illegal loggers, smugglers, other criminal gangs, and goons in uniform will be intensified and pursued relentlessly, end of quote. The president directed the military, the police, and the National Bureau of Investigation to closely supervise their operations and personnel to maximize the gains from Oplan Paglalansag. Nepotism, coddling, incompetence, and lawlessness will not be tolerated as these have not escaped the scrutiny of the public, quote unquote, the president said. Those guilty must be charged and purged from government service immediately, quote unquote.

### Thailand

**Foreign Minister Receives PRC Former Official**  
*BK0512054893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri on Friday [3 December] met former deputy prime minister of the People's Republic of China [not further identified], who called on him at the ministry. He was told that China admires economic growth and advancement in Thailand and that the region's prospect has never looked so bright, with the cessation of hostility and commitment to free trade by countries in the region, in particular in the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] ministerial and leadership meetings in Seattle last month. The two countries are satisfied with the achievement from their joint efforts toward peace in Cambodia.

Minister Prasong says that he will be visiting Cambodia during 11 and 12 December to hold consultations with Cambodian authorities, especially on trade agreements and contracts made in the past. Also, he will be preparing ground for Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's visit to Cambodia around the middle of January next year.

### Immigration Police Arrest 13 Burmese Students

*BK0412074193 Bangkok SIAM POST in Thai 4 Dec 93 p 14*

[Text] At 1700 on 3 December, a police team under the command of Police Lieutenant Colonel Khanchai Anantasombun, deputy commander of the Immigration Police Headquarters 4, raided the three-story building of the Women's Status Promotion Association at Village No. 3 in the Thung Sikan area of Don Muang District, Bangkok. They arrested 13 Burmese students who were holding a meeting to plan activities against the Burmese Government. The students were detained at the Immigration Police Division.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Khanchai Anantasombun said the Burmese students were arrested on charges of entering the Kingdom illegally. If their names are on the Interior Ministry's list, they will be allowed to choose between being sent to the Maniloi Sheltering Center for Burmese Students in Rat Buri Province, or being repatriated to Burma. Most of them wanted to go to the sheltering center.

The police believed that the students might have been planning to use violence against the Burmese Government. Papa, leader of the student group, said the meeting was held to plan activities against the Burmese regime. Representatives of the Federation of Thai Students Associations were about to come to the meeting when the police raid took place.

### Police Deport 710 Cambodians After Illegal Entry

*BK0512031693 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 5 Dec 93 p 2*

[Text] Thai police and soldiers rounded up a total of 710 Khmers near the border on charges of illegal entry early yesterday morning.

The Cambodians, comprising 156 men and 554 women, reportedly slipped across the border and were hired to work in rice farms by Thai farmers in Ban Wang Mon, Ban Tha Kham and Ban Kok Sabang villages.

The aliens were later sent back home through Klong Luek-Poipet border check-point.

Informed sources said Thai authorities notified their Cambodian counterpart in Poipet that Khmer civilians could work in rice farms in this district on the condition that they obtain certificates from Cambodian authorities and that when they enter Thailand they do so through Klong Luek-Poipet border entry point.

The Cambodians cannot stay overnight and have to return to Poipet by 4.30 p.m. everyday.

On the other hand, Thai villagers who want to hire Cambodian workers must notify their respective village headmen or kamnan.

Shortage of labourers to work in the fields and high wage demands have prompted Thai farmers to hire Cambodians at a lower wage.

Picture above shows Cambodian illegal immigrants gather in Ban Wang Mon, Aranyaprathet, under guard by Thai authorities, before they were sent across the border yesterday.

#### Foreign Minister Says Saudi Ties 'Improved'

BK0312135793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 3 Dec 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said during an interview with newsmen on 3 December that Thai-Saudi relations had improved considerably. Thailand has been added to the list of countries on Saudi passports approved for visits by Saudi nationals. When asked about the investigation into the case of theft of Saudi jewelry, Prasong said progress had been made and he believed the case would be concluded soon.

#### Official Says Japan To Import Rice in 1994

OW0212143493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1425 GMT 2 Dec 93

[Text] Bangkok, Dec. 2 KYODO—A Thai deputy minister said Thursday [2 December] that Japan will import 3 million tons of rice in 1994. Deputy Commerce Minister Chaiyot Sasomsap said he received a report to that effect from the Thai Embassy in Tokyo. The Japanese Government has so far said only that Japan needs at least 1.1 million tons of imported rice for 1994. Of this amount, 200,000 tons are needed for industry and the rest for direct consumption.

#### King Urges 'Certain Groups' To End 'Quarrelling'

BK0512042693 Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Dec 93 p A1

[Text] His Majesty the King yesterday called for an end to quarrelling that involved statements which he said have demoralized and confused the public.

He also urged certain groups of people to stop "biting one another", to iron out their differences and to work together to bring about national solidarity.

His Majesty, speaking in the Dusidalai Throne Hall, repeated the word "bite" twice to emphasize his point. The term has a derogatory connotation and is normally used to describe senseless and destructive arguments or fighting.

The King did not explicitly refer to any particular incident but at one point said: "...I think you all know what I'm talking about. Some of you are laughing..."

Newspaper headlines in the past few weeks have been dominated by the conflict and exchange of contradictory statements between Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut and the Police Department.

"People who know the value of unity are supposed to know what or what not to say. They must also be ready to admit a mistake in what they said. If they said something wrong, they should not be too stubborn to admit it," he said.

It was all right for members of an organization to hold different opinions on an issue and engage in rational argument, "but they must try to reach an agreement before they get down to work", he said.

"For example, a car will go nowhere if the front and rear wheels are designed to go in opposite directions," the King said.

He said he raised the issue about the need for the people to work toward national unity because the lack of it would impede Thailand's national development in an increasingly competitive world.

The King also warned that quarrelling among certain groups of Thai people would affect the country's image in the international community.

"Foreigners will be laughing at us because it will only confirm their preconception of Thailand as a strange and barbaric place," he said.

#### King Praises Royal Guards, Reaffirms Duties

BK0312124593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 0945 GMT 3 Dec 93

[Speech by King Phumiphon Adunyadet at the Royal Plaza in Bangkok during the annual trooping of the colors of the royal guards to mark his 5 December birthday—live]

[Text] The queen and I are very pleased to see the unity of the royal guards at this trooping of the colors. Thank you for the pledges and greetings offered to us out of sincerity and friendly feelings. I wish all soldiers the same greetings and my sincere blessings.

The major task of soldiers is to defend the country and safeguard national independence and sovereignty by military might. Yet, the duty of soldiers also includes protection of the people, with care and concern, so that they can live in peace and happiness and are free from dangers and all kinds of miseries. The Thai soldiers have already been carrying out those duties, and they have fulfilled their tasks through the sacrifice of their own lives for the achievement of their lofty tasks.

Although the Cold War is considered over now, soldiers' responsibilities have not lessened or become less important. There are dangers and disturbances of all kinds threatening people throughout the world. Soldiers at all levels must remain vigilant and perform their duties with the sense of discipline and thoroughness, both in terms of combat readiness as well as cooperation with other sectors to support and promote the wellbeing of the people. By making great efforts to improve their knowledge and capabilities, and by achieving their fulfillment in performing their duties, the soldiers will be crowned with a genuine success and prosperity, and the honor for themselves and for the Thai Armed Forces.

The royal guard soldiers must try to think clearly and search for a better understanding. They must pursue their entrusted duties with circumspection and good reason, based on the correct principles, correct method, and correct interests. In this way, they will be able to make full use of their knowledge, capability, and intelligence to pursue their goals, and, in unity, to make contributions to the country and the military institution.

May the power of the Buddhist triple gems, all the sacred powers in this universe, and the power of their sincere loyalty in the nation keep the soldiers strong, with physical, mental, and intellectual strength which will enable them to successfully perform both major and minor tasks. I wish them all happiness and prosperity, safety, and victories, and also the fulfillment of all their wishes.

**Editorial on Steps To Counter Export 'Dumping'**  
*BK0312092993 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 3 Dec 93 p 3*

[Editorial: "Dumping Prevention"]

[Text] This is not self-glorification. Our country has evolved into a major world market and enjoys at least 7.5 percent annual economic growth. This year's exports will earn no less than 1 trillion baht. For this reason, for its own interest it is necessary for Thailand to enact legislation to prevent dumping and counter unfair subsidies.

We are glad to learn that in its last meeting the Council of Economic Ministers approved the antidumping and unfair subsidy legislation, thus paving the way for effective protection of current and future national interests. This is because despite the GATT determination to bring about free global trade, many countries, including the EEC and the United States, have enacted legislation to prevent dumping and unfair subsidies and to impose import quotas to threaten their trading partners.

Some 31 Thai export products have been hit by these antidumping and antisubsidy measures. Now it will not be long before Thailand will be the one which will levy import quotas and impose immediate countermeasures against foreign dumping and unfair subsidies.

Since the commerce minister has insisted that he intends to submit the antidumping and unfair subsidy legislation to

the parliament before the end of the current session, we feel that even with the addition of the deputy finance minister and the finance permanent secretary the structure of the Antidumping and Unfair Subsidy Committee still appears awkward and incapable of timely counteraction.

We feel that a position should be created with the authority to rule independently on dumping and unfair subsidy practices. He would have the mandate of the Antidumping and Unfair Subsidy Committee to impose antidumping and unfair subsidy measures as he sees fit. If the victims feel they received unfair treatment, they can submit evidence to annul the measures taken against them. The holder of this position should also have the power to set import quotas.

We feel that antidumping action against unfair trading partners must be taken in a timely manner. It would be too time-consuming to have to convene a meeting of the Antidumping Committee first before an action can be taken, and if that is the case the legislation would be useless to the country.

#### **BOT Predicts 8% Economic Growth for 1994**

*BK0212022393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Dec 93 p 17*

[Text] The Board of Trade yesterday forecast that Thailand's economic growth rate next year would be 8 percent, slightly higher than this year's rate which various estimates have put at between 7.2 percent and 7.6 percent.

The 8 percent projection echoes comments made in recent days by Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemin and Siam Commercial Bank president Olan Chaiprawat.

The Board attributed the 8 percent rate to increased investment and exports, the latter benefitting from a recovery in the global economy. World economic growth has been projected at 2-2.5 percent next year, an improvement on this year's 1 percent.

Some major private investments next year in oil-refinery expansion, pipelines, petrochemicals and auto assembly would help fuel Thailand's growth, the Board said.

The Board expects the inflation rate next year to increase slightly to between 4 percent and 4.5 percent.

It said the farming sector for the 1993-94 and 1994-95 crop years would continue to be affected by water shortages, especially in central areas. The second rice crop will be affected the most. The farming sector is expected to grow by 3-3.5 percent overall.

Despite the water shortage, first rice crop yields would be higher, spurred by rising world prices, declining yields in other markets and the opening of Japan's rice market. Thailand can expect to sell five to 5.5 million tons more of rice abroad next year, the Board said.

Industrial sector growth will depend on the success of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks, scheduled to be completed on December 13, the Board said.

Exports of electronic products, electrical appliances, plastic products, automobiles, motorcycles and other manufactured products are expected to grow by 11 percent.

Overall exports were forecast to grow by up to 14 percent or 1,040 billion baht, up from 12.2 percent in 1993.

Imports will increase by 12 percent or about 1,300 billion baht because the country still needs capital goods such as machinery for construction expansion in both the public and private sectors.

The overall growth rate in the service sector—tourism and hotels communications, finance and insurance—has been projected at 7.2 percent.

The Board said investment by the Government would continue to grow by about 20 percent while private-sector investment would increase by 8-10 percent.

While the economy is growing satisfactorily, the Board said the Government could do much more to ensure that growth can be maintained. Its suggestions included:

- Solving the water shortage for farmers, business and consumers;
- Boosting investors' confidence and providing them with enough facilities and convenience. That would include solving traffic problems, restructuring import duties on raw materials, trimming government red tape, solving the shortage of skilled labour, improving electricity and telephone infrastructure, eliminating all obstacles to international trade, and emphasising research and development to expand markets.

## Vietnam

### Do Muoi Receives U.S. Senator Murkowski

BK0312152593 Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 3 Dec 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 3—Party General Secretary Do Muoi received here this afternoon Senator Frank Murkowski, member of the Asia and Pacific Subcommittee and the Veterans' Affairs Committee of the U.S. Senate, now on a visit to Vietnam. Senator F. Murkowski said that his visit's purpose is to inquire into Vietnam's economic situation and prospects of economic cooperation between the U.S. and Vietnam. He expressed his belief that the cooperation would be in conformity with the interest of the Vietnamese and U.S. peoples as well as of the world people. He also expressed his viewpoints is the United States should soon lift up the embargo against Vietnam so that the two countries would normalise their relations.

About the issue of Americans missing in action (MIA), the U.S. senator expressed his satisfaction at Vietnam's positive and effective cooperation with the U.S. in this issue. For his part, General Secretary Do Muoi affirmed that Vietnam considered the settlement of the MIA issue as a humanitarian issue and has close cooperated with the U.S. side in this issue. He expressed his hope that the U.S. side will positively response to Vietnam's good will, both sides must close the past and build the friendly and cooperative relations. He said that Vietnam is ready to welcome American businessmen to the country to inquire into possibilities of investment and establishment of trade relations with Vietnam. Also present at the reception were Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai and deputy head of the party Central Committee's External Relations Commission Hoang Thuy Giang. While here the U.S. senator was also received by Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, had working sessions with Minister of Energy Thai Phung Ne, director general of the Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation Ho Si Thoang, and vice chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment Nguyen Nhac. The U.S. guest will leave Hanoi tomorrow for Ho Chi Minh City before ending his visit to Vietnam.

### Leaders Receive Chinese Military Delegation

BK0512151193 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 5 Dec 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 5—Party General Secretary Do Muoi received here this afternoon a delegation of the General Political Department of the China People's Liberation Army (CPLA) led by its director, Senior Lieut. Gen. Yu Yongbo, now on a visit to Vietnam.

The party chief welcomed the delegation's visit as a good manifestation of the development of the friendly relations between the people and armies of the two countries.

He said that the party, the Army and the people of Vietnam are always grateful to the Chinese party, Army and people for their great support and assistance to Vietnam's struggle for national independence and liberation in the past. At present, the Armies and the people of Vietnam and China are uniting in national defence and construction, contributing to the consolidation and safeguard of peace, stability and cooperation in the region and the world as a whole, the Vietnamese party leader stressed.

Sr. Lieut. Gen. Yu Yongbo, for his part, informed party General Secretary Do Muoi of the fine results of the talks between leaders of the two army's political departments.

Also present at the reception were Sr. Lieut. Gen. Le Kha Phieu, secretary of the party CC [Central Committee] and head of the Army's General Political Department Lieut. Gen. Le Hai, deputy head of the department and Do Van Tai, deputy head of the party CC's External Relations Commission. Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Qing was on hand.

The Chinese delegation was received on the same day by Gen. Doan Khue, Politburo member of the party CC and minister of defence, who was assured by Sr. Lieut. Gen. Yu Yongbo of the China People's Liberation Army determination to do their utmost together with the Vietnam People's Army to contribute to the restoration and development of the friendly relations between the army and the people of the two countries.

The delegation was given a banquet after its arrival on Dec. 3 by Senior Lieut. Gen. Le Kha Phieu.

On Dec. 4, the Chinese guests paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum.

The same day, the delegation exchanged views with a delegation of the Vietnam People's Army's General Political Department led by Senior Lieut. Gen. Le Kha Phieu. The two sides informed each other of the situation of national construction, army building and political works of the two Armies. They expressed their wishes for the further strengthening and development of the relations between the two departments with an aim to contribute to the promotion of the friendship and mutual understanding between the Armies and the people of Vietnam and China.

### **Chinese Party Delegation Concludes Visit**

*BK0512151893 Hanoi VNA in English 1515 GMT 5 Dec 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 5—A delegation of the Communist Party of China (CPC) led by Ding Guangen, Politburo member and secretary of the CPC Central Committee, left here today ending a week-long visit to Vietnam.

While in Vietnam, the Chinese party delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum.

The delegation was received by party General Secretary Do Muoi. It held talks with a delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Nguyen Duc Binh, Politburo member and secretary of the party Central Committee.

The Chinese guests met with Pham The Duyet and Vo Tran Chi, Politburo members of the party CC [Central Committee] and secretaries of the party committees of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City respectively. They also had working sessions with Hong Ha, secretary of the party CC and head of its External Relations Commission and Ha Dang, member of the party CC and head of its Ideology and Culture Commission.

The two sides stressed the two parties' wish to further strengthen their contacts and exchange of views aiming at increasing mutual understanding, promoting the friendly relations and effective cooperation in many fields, to discuss measures to gradually resolve historical and newly emerging issues in the two countries' relations, contributing to the cause of peace, stability, cooperation and development in the region.

The Chinese party delegation also visited a number of economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Dong Nai and Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provinces.

### **Ho Chi Minh City Assembly Deputies Meet Voters**

*BK0312142693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] Deputies to the National Assembly in Ho Chi Minh City have met with voters to commit their opinions, suggestions, and recommendations for the Fourth Session of the National Assembly Ninth Legislature.

Most of the voters maintained that encouraging achievements have been made over the past three years, especially in 1993. The economy has overcome its hardest time, creating an impetus for development. The outstanding success has been the checking of inflation while increasing the growth rate.

However, this growth rate alone cannot ensure the successful implementation of the socioeconomic development strategy to the year 2000. Voters recommended that the National Assembly should adopt positive solutions such as protection of domestic goods, domestic investment law, preferential terms to domestic businesses, and utilization of local strengths through investment from different economic factors.

They held that the fight against corruption and smuggling conforms to people's wishes. They demanded punishment to all those who committed on these offenses.

The voters recognize achievements of the National Assembly over recent years, including its role in law making. They suggested that the National Assembly complete the Penal Code, Law on Labor, and Law on Economic.

### **Reportage on Fourth National Assembly Session**

#### **Standing Committee Meets**

*BK0312160493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] The National Assembly Standing Committee [NASC] has issued a communique saying that it held a meeting on 2 December under the chairmanship of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh with the attendance of State Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh. The meeting was held to further examine preparatory work for the Fourth Session of the Ninth National Assembly.

The NASC approved the Regulations on SRV Representative Offices in Foreign Countries for unified management of these representative offices to serve our party and state's foreign policy in the new situation. It also

approved the Ordinance on Marriage Between Vietnamese Citizens and Foreigners, thus creating a legal foundation to ensure a happy marriage in conformity with international laws.

### Assembly Session Opens 6 Dec

*BK0612053793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 6 Dec 93*

[Text] The Ninth National Assembly's fourth session opened at the Ba Dinh conference hall in Hanoi this morning.

Prior to the session, National Assembly deputies paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum.

At 0830 sharp, the National Assembly session opened. Attending were Comrades Do Muoi, Le Duc Anh, Vo Van Kiet, and Nong Duc Manh; Advisers Pham Van Dong and Vo Chi Cong; and other party and state leaders. Also present at the opening of the National Assembly session this morning were members of the diplomatic corps and local and foreign reporters.

After the opening speech delivered by National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet presented a report on the implementation of a National Assembly resolution concerning the 1993 socioeconomic development and on the orientations and tasks for 1994.

Prime Minister Van Van Kiet's report focused on the following five major issues:

1. Pressing requirements and the prospects for entering a new stage of socioeconomic development.
2. What to do to produce a rapid and long-lasting economic development rate.
3. The resolution of various socioeconomic issues more satisfactorily.
4. The development of new advantages in diplomatic activities.
5. The improvement of the government's operational efficiency.

Also at this morning's session, the National Assembly heard:

- Chairman Nong Duc Manh report on the 1993 activities of the National Assembly Standing Committee and the orientations for its 1994 activities;
- Hoang Duc Nghi, minister and head of the Nationalities and Mountain Region Committee, deliver a report on the situation regarding socioeconomic and ethnic development.

This afternoon, the National Assembly will continue in session at the conference hall.

### Sixth Party Plenum Issues Communique

*BK0312153393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Dec 93*

[Text] The sixth plenum of the Central Committee, seventh legislature, has issued a communique indicating that the Central Committee, seventh legislature, convened its sixth plenum from 24 November-1 December 1993 in Hanoi. Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi delivered an important speech at this plenum.

The sixth party plenum had the task of preparing the agenda of the midterm national party conference to review the results of the implementation of the seventh party congress resolution, sum up the progress of the renovation process, and define major policies and measures to successfully carry out the seventh party congress resolution and continue to make the revolutionary cause in our country advance steadily.

By taking into account the views contributed by the various party committee echelons, scientists, cultural workers, and veteran party cadres, the sixth party plenum held animated debates on the draft political report prepared by the Central Committee for submission to the midterm national party conference. The debates focused on the evaluation of the situation; the opportunities and challenges facing our people; the shift of the economic system to industrialization and modernization; the orientations, objectives, and strategies for socioeconomic development for the 1994-95 two-year period; the various economic sectors, especially the state economic sector; the market mechanism under state management based on socialist orientations; and such social issues as social equality, the anticorruption campaign, maintenance of political stability, measures to renovate and revamp party organizations, ways to build and make party and state apparatuses pure and firm, and measures to renovate the mass mobilization work.

The party plenum unanimously reached conclusions on many issues and entrusted the Political Bureau with the task of basing itself on the views of the Central Committee to perfect the political report to be submitted to the national party conference.

The plenum also discussed the problem concerning the need for additional members of the Central Committee based on the party statutes for submission to the party conference for decision.

The Central Committee is convinced that our entire party, Army, and people will achieve singlemindedness and heighten the determination to lead the renovation cause forward, win even greater achievements, and successfully implement the seventh party congress resolution.